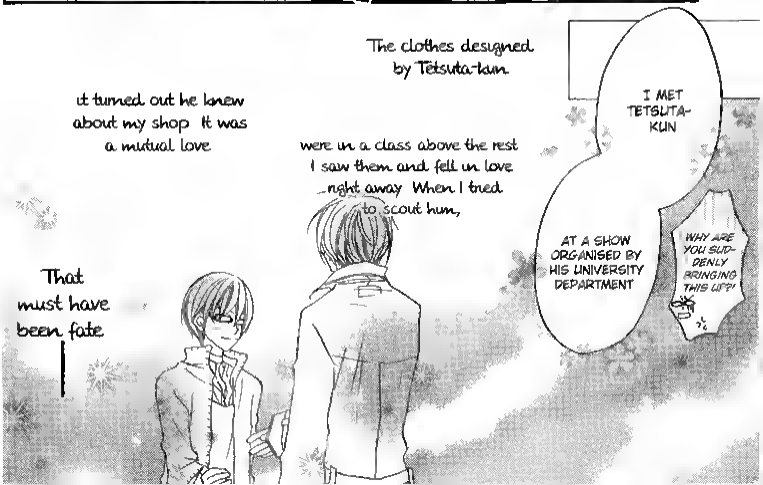
Afterword + Omake Manga

I WAS JUST REMINISCING ABOUT THE TIME WHEN I SCOUTED TETSUTA-KUN AND THE PRESIDENT
PARDON ?!
Hmm
YOU'D BETTER LEAVE HIM ALONE
Or else it will be annoying
AH,
stitch
stitch
I WONDER WHAT OWNER IS THINKING
Staring out like that
Dress Fitting
TURN


The clothes designed by Tetsuta-kun
it turned out he knew about my shop It was a mutual love
were in a class above the rest I saw them and fell in love right away When I tried to scout him,
I MET TETSUTA-KUN
AT A SHOW ORGANISED BY HIS UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT
WHY ARE YOU SUDDENLY BRINGING THIS UP?!
That must have been fate

ANNOYED
SHUT UP, IMPOSTER.
Ehh~? You're mean~ I was not making up stories
So he was making up the story?
Ehh?
THE TRUTH
You will, right, Sazawa?
KYAH~~ HE WILL DO IT ♡
A PERSON LIKE YOU CAN SURELY CREATE YOUR OWN TREND...
COMITTED REST OF THE SENTENCE AGAIN
IF YOU WORK WITH US, YOU CAN NURTURE YOUR TALENTS TO YOUR HEART'S CONTENT...
CAGAIN OMITTED THE REST OF SENTENCE)
AWESOME!! WITH THE TALENTS YOU HAVE, YOU WOULD DEFINITELY BE ABLE TO CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS MAKING GIRLS LOOK PRETTY...
(HE OMITTED THE REST OF SENTENCE)
He's a bit shaken
Sazawa?? You're awesome!
You're getting scouted by Karisma??!
Ehh? What are you trying to ?
HUH?!
Hey, hold on a sec
YAY~ WE DID IT!♡
His Classmates
RIGHT?
Someone who was scouted using the same trick
Eh was that what happened?
An imposter
YEAH, HE'S THE WORST OF TRICK-STER.
IN MY CASE...

HUH? NO WAY.
I'll get in trouble just from being around you.
LET'S SET UP A SHOP TOGETHER!
I DON'T WANT TO DO IT WITH ANYONE ELSE.
Childhood Friends
OUT OF THE BLUE...
Damn the declining birth rate!
step
step
step
National University Year 4
He has no job due to the lack of vacancy in the education department
PRESIDENT!
BECAUSE,
MY WORLD REVOLVES AROUND YOU.
I WOULD DIE WITHOUT YOU.
I CAN BE HAPPY IF I'M WITH YOU,
AND I'M SURE I'LL MAKE YOU HAPPY, TOO.
Right?
TRICKSTER
Ah- President's chai tea is delicious
He tricked us, too?
TURNS
Huh
She wanted someone to say she looks good in pretty dresses
He wanted someone to recognize his talent
HOW CAN YOU GET TRICKED BY SUCH A DUBIOUS...
HE HIT MY WEAK POINT
WEDDING SCAM?
President

slowly opens
knock knock
TAKUMI-SAN
ARATA-SAN
BREAKFAST IS READY
.....
PFF!
The Somagi Days
It's been about a month now since I started working at the Somagi's
They get along well, as always...

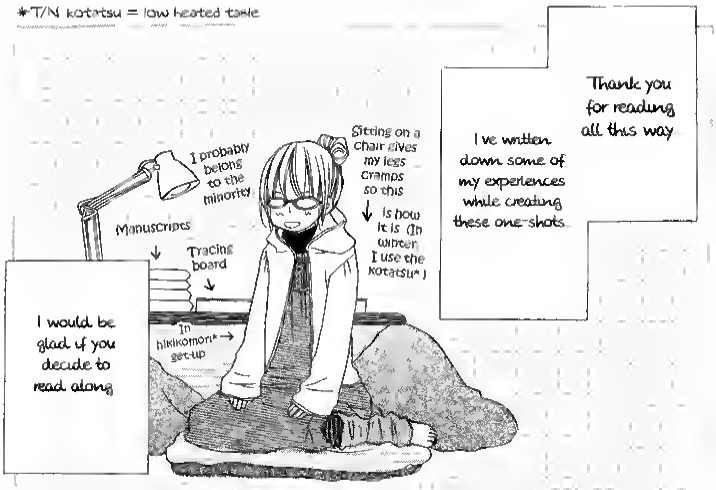
...and it makes me a little envious.
I'M HOME.
TAKUMI-SAN?
Kujira already left for school.
These people love their meat buns.
Nothing to cry over
It was lying there so I decided to eat it
MUNCH!
MUNCH!
YOU'RE HEART-LESS!
MEAN!
MAYBE I SAID TOO MUCH...
HOW COULD YOU FINISH THEM BY YOURSELF?!
AH! MY MEAT BUN.
THE MEAT BUN KUJIRA-SAN BOUGHT US FOR TEA!
I'M REFLECTING ON MY ACTIONS...
?
THIS MORNING I HAD A FIGHT WITH ARATA OVER A MEAT BUN.
IS SOMETHING WRONG?
Wha—
WELCOME BACK KUJIRA-SAN.

giggle giggle
YOU GET ALONG SO WELL
THAT YOU ALWAYS END UP FIGHTING WITH EACH OTHER
EH?
YOU, YOU THINK SO?
YUP.
AH
Choco
TAKUMI-SAN, WOULD YOU LIKE SOME CHOCOLATE PIE?
It will cheer you up
AH, YES PLEASE
Itadakimasu
I SEE THAT YOU LIKE CHOCOLATE, KUJIRA-SAN
EH? HOW?
SINCE YOU CAME HERE,
WE HAVE MORE AND MORE CHOCOLATE FLAVORED SNACKS.
BESIDES,
Translation Note: traditional Japanese greeting
smile
munch
munch
IF ONE PAYS ENOUGH ATTENTION ONE CAN TELL
dush
I'M HOME.
OUCH
AH
"If one pays enough attention"

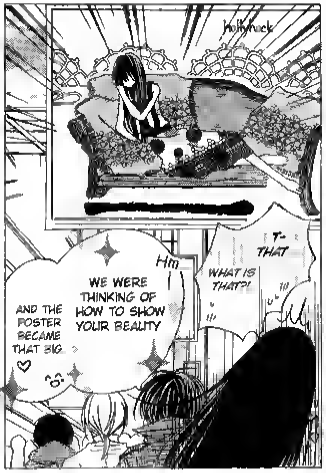
Warm
Warm
MEAT BUNS
ARATA-SAN
Welcome back
HM
IT'S HOT
WHAT'S THIS?!
WHAT?
I'M GONNA TAKE A BATH BEFORE DINNER
AH, I'LL JOIN YOU
WHAT?
I JUST THOUGHT THAT YOU GUYS ARE VERY CLOSE
NOTHING
I'll keep them in the fridge
EHP?!
Get to know you?
EHHP?
WOULD YOU LIKE TO JOIN US?
We'll get to know each other better

She could sue you!!
Arata, that's sexual harassment!!
Yeah Yeah
Choon?
Boo hoo... Itadakimasu
gape
gape
gape
Having a bath together...
Together
HERE SOUVENIR FOR YOU
N-NO, THANKS
I'LL HAVE MY BATH ALONE
A~auuu
EH?
THA-THANK YOU VERY MUCH
EATING
EATING
EATING
Chocolate
"If one pays enough attention"
BOO
IT'S A CHOCO-LATE BUN~!

*T/N kotatsu = low heated table


I probably belong to the minority
Sitting on a chair gives my legs cramps so this is how it is (In winter I use the kotatsu*)
Manuscripts
Tracing board
In hikikomori* get-up
I would be glad if you decide to read along
I've written down some of my experiences while creating these one-shots
Thank you for reading all this way

*T/N hikikomori = someone who doesn't go out to meet others.



Mizutama×Fabric

Initially, the plan was that the protagonist (Yori) had to work to pay off a debt. However, when my editor suggested making her a model, the whole plot became clear to me.

I wasn't able to draw the story behind how the guys met in the main story, so I'm glad that I was able to draw it in the omake. I have a tendency to get sidetracked (like how I did in the omake). I also like the idea of grown-up guys addressing one another with nicknames... For example, Tetsuto's real name was supposed to be Tetsu, and "Tetsuto" was supposed to be his nickname, but it was getting confusing (of course it's confusing), so we just stuck to "Tetsuto" as his name.

As for nicknames, somehow I like it when it's longer than the actual name. ...Just a trivia.

The Love Circumstances at the Sumagi's

My manga usually revolve around the phase before couples fall in love. This time, I thought I'd make one where they are actually in love, so I put the word "love" in the title itself. But it ended up backfiring on me...
I kept changing the draft back and forth. In the end, it became a story about finding one's treasure. Deviated too much...

I was planning on making Kuúira (the protagonist) a girlish girl, so I drew her hands and feet small. Well, what do you think? She looks just like a typical girl, eh? (laughter)

I got the idea to draw this →from a friend. I was going around in circles trying to think of an idea for the story when my friend suggested that I draw something from the Taishou era. A western manor and the Taishou era. For the season, I think winter'd be nice...

Michibiki no Tsue (The Staff of Guidance)

I drew this manga because I wanted to draw a fantasy.

Drawing a fantasy story was difficult! I had to explain the world where the story took place, and I had to explain the world...(etc). Nevertheless, it was fun drawing people flying in the sky and the mantles.
I'd like to draw another fantasy sometime.

This story revolves around a piano, so I had to draw hands and fingers. A lot of them. I wanted to draw smooth fingers, but as I modeled them after my own, they ended up looking knobbly...

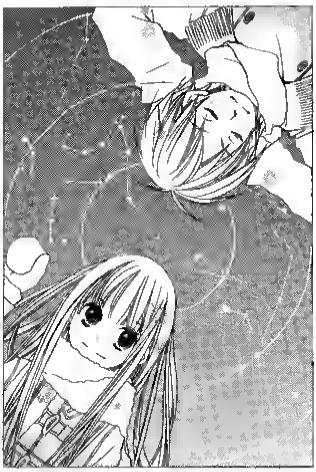
Wish Upon the Stars

I remember telling my editor something like, "I want to draw a story about naming the North Star after someone!" without preparing any drafts or storyboard or anything.

At the Okonomiyaki Shop
Why don't you show me a draft first?
AND THEY NAME THE STAR AFTER HIM.
THEY RIDE ON A BIKE TOGETHER
What do you think?

Of course my editor wouldn't have understood what I was trying to say

"I went to visit a planetarium after reading your story." I actually cried to receive such a letter from a reader. I was only too happy .. This is one memorable piece of work to me, thus I am happy to be able to get it published as part of a comic.



Thank you for reading
I hope you enjoyed the stories

Till we meet again.

I would be glad if you address your comments to

HAYASHI MIKASE
LALA EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT
HAKUSENSHA, 2-2-2 KANDA-AWAJI-CHO,
CHIYODA-KU. POSTCODE 101-0063

And here's my website that I update at my own leisurely pace.

"Cassis" http://cassis.chips.jp/

Special thanks!

Satoh-san, Taneoka-san, my editors,
Everyone involved in the production of this book,
Friends who helped me out,
Nae-chan, Kana-chan, Hari-san♥
My family, and friends.

And last but not least, kind readers who took this comic in their hands.

Mizutama Fabric

Credits

Omake

Scanner littlepinkrose12
Translator hanchakachan
QCer littlepinkrose12

Special Thanks to shekyl & love

Brought to you by
http://www.thehiga.realm.net

花とゆめ COMICS

Mizutama Fabric

HAYASHI Mikase

*Mizutama means Polka Dot

Hana to Yume Comics

> SYNOPSIS <

She might be tall, but high-schooler Fukagawa Yori likes pretty dresses BUT, the guy that she likes says, "They don't suit you" !_What a trauma for our poor Yori One day, our Yori ends up modelling for a fashion show Included are three other short stories This is a collection of Hayashi Mikase's short stories, compiled for your reading pleasure. <3

花とゆめCOMICS

Polka Dot Fabric

HAYASHI Mikase

*Translator Note: on a school day, but students don't wear school uniform.

I used to really like pretty dresses
On the free-uniform day, with all my guts, I greeted him.
G... GOOD MORNING.
Tadaima-chan.
FUKA-GAWA.
DO YOU ALWAYS DRESS LIKE THAT?
YEAH. SO... WHAT DO YOU THINK ...?
MORNING
thump thump thump
WEIRD.
WEARING A PRETTY DRESS AT THAT HEIGHT...
IT DOESN'T SUIT YOU.
Since then,
YEAH ...
my unbearable height and my cute clothes
I wanted to show it to the person that I liked.
have both become ...
I GUESS ...
YOU'RE RIGHT.

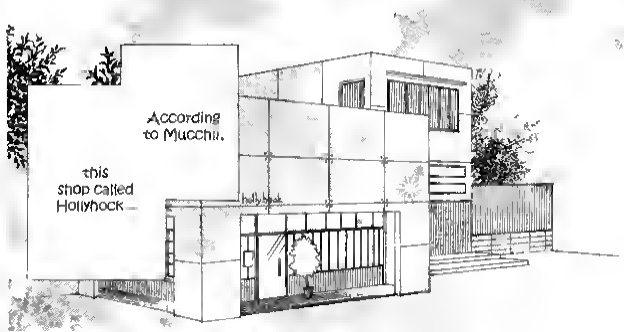
Polka Dot * FABRIC

...part of my Complex.

*Translator Note: made in Japan shop - it's a shop that displays items that are not only from one designer

WOW—!!
lands
Cool! Is she a Ninja?
SHOCKED
flip
UMM
MEOW
HERE IS YOUR CAT

YI-YAH!
NO FLIRTING!
Eh?
I-I'M NOT
GRAB
HEY, COULD YOU
WHAT?
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
IT'S NOTHING
I'm from the Gymnastics Club. That's why.
That's really cool.
COME ON!
THE TRUTH IS THAT YOU STILL LIKE PRETTY DRESSES, DON'T YOU, YORI?
!
LET'S GO!
Pulls
WHAT? Where?
OF COURSE TO THAT SHOP!
There's nothing I can do about this attempt...
AH!
PULL
PULL


According to Mucchi,
this shop called Hollyhock—
hollyhock

Hollyhock
is run by three staff members including the owner, Karisma
(And for some reason—) All of them are guys.

They say that this shop is selling self-production dresses and accessories.
H-holy Cow!
Buc

Hello, nice to meet you, I'm Hayashi Mikase.

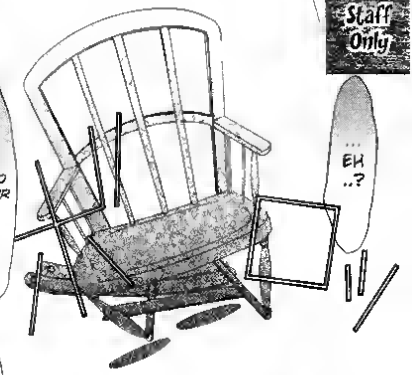
Thank you for reading my comics. This is my 5th published comic.

I'm so happy, and it makes my hands shake!
I owed this publication to many people. Thank you very much.

Moreover, it's a collection of short stories! I've never thought of having a complete work of 1 comic edition, so it makes me glad and cry out of joy.

I picked four stories from my recent work to my old work. I'll be happy if you enjoy my works.

ANY-THING?
I'M SO SORRY I'LL PAY FOR IT...
I'll do anything
YES
CHAIN OF DESPERATE LIFE
200 000 yen...
Hee...


IT'S A 200 000 YEN CHAIR
... Is it?
EH ..?
YES, IT IS.
From an auction

SFX crumble
OKAY
AS PAYMENT...
YOU'LL GO TO THE SHOW AS MY MODEL

Model
DO IT!
It sounds fun!
!
THAT'S IMPOSS-IBLE!
Your style is good too
Shrinking

UM
IT'S REALLY IMPOSS-IBLE...
I LOOK BAD IN PRETTY DRESSES

Eh?

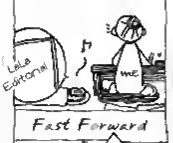
IF I'M HERE, YOU WILL LIKE IT.
IT'S OKAY.
Awww It's truly Kurisma.
He didn't get what I meant.
THIS IS MY BEST FRIEND. HE'S THE PRESIDENT
He was a freak back then
Pleased to meet you
Higuchi Hayato (23)
Acessory Designer and Maker
I'LL INTRODUCE YOU TO MY STAFF, OKAY?
THIS IS TETSUTA-KUN, MY CLOTH DESIGNER.
Thank you
Sazawa Tetsuta (18)
Pattern Designer (Still a student)
Wh
Why would this person—
Imposter?!
What's going on here?
Who are you calling your best friend?
SHUT UP, YOU IMPOSTER.
I'M THE ONE THAT RECRUITED THEM!
Give me my life back!
Asagi Touya (23)
Shop Owner Designer
Aw
Master Imposter
ANXIOUS
Childhood Friend
anger

DING DONG
DING DONG
...want me as his model?
"Before the show, we'll have a talk about fitting the dress and the walking practice, okay?"
If I wear a pretty dress like that...
...If I..
It's entirely my fault.
But I don't want to go
SHUDDER
AHAHA! HAHAHA! HAHA!! UNBELIEVABLE!
What's wrong with that?
It's Tagami-kun.
AH!
huff huff
That's funny isn't it.
Wearing a pretty dress at that height...
sfx depressed
CLUB
Senpai is still looking gloomy..
IMPOSSIBLE ...!!
DO YOU THINK YOU HAVE TO STAY LIKE THAT?!
ARE YOU GOING TO AVOID ALL THE PRETTY DRESSES YOUR FAVORITE THING IN YOUR LIFE?!
Gymnastics Club
YOU'RE SUCH A DESPERATE GIRL!

Translator Note: screen tones are the patterned piece of plastic that manga artists paste onto their black and white drawings to give it colour

.....
NO
I WON'T
GOOD THINK POSITIVELY
YOU HAVE TO WORK IT UP!
MAYBE BECOMING A MODEL COULD BE YOUR CHANCE TO GET OVER YOUR TRAUMA!
And we'll shed that Trauma up forever!

When I received the call about compiling my short stories into a book, I was at a friend's assisting her with the screen tones*

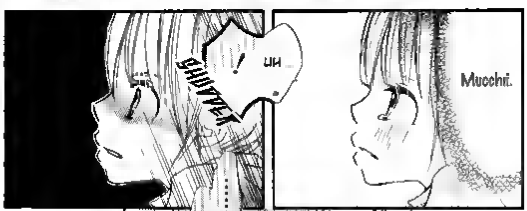


Fast Forward

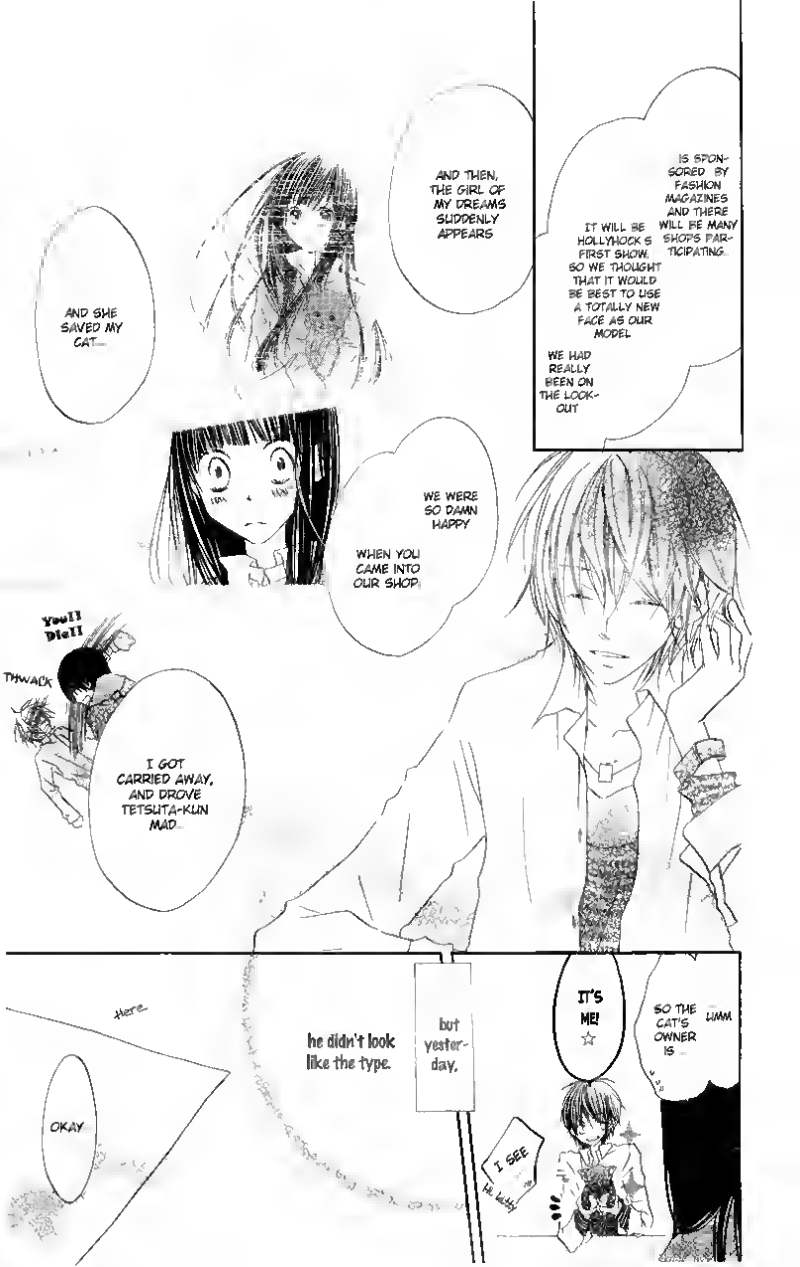
A shocking introduction for a weak heart

Very Pessimistic (typical me)

I'm glad it turned out to be good news



scribble
YOU KNOW,
I WAS MAKING THE DESIGNS FOR YOUR DRESS
is a burden for me
STAFF ONLY
AND WHEN I REALIZED IT, I WAS ALREADY AT YOUR SCHOOL
I WAS THINKING ABOUT YOU ALL THE TIME,
... Huh. It sounds fishy, but...
WHY NOT?! IT WILL SPICE UP YOUR LIFE!
DON'T REALLY BELIEVE IN SUCH THINGS.
W-WELL I
SO, WE ARE DESTINED TO HAVE BUMPED INTO EACH OTHER!
He talks about those kinds of things...
This guy...
THIS COMING SHOW,
THAT I'M GETTING YORI-CHAN TO HELP ME OUT WITH...


AND THEN, THE GIRL OF MY DREAMS SUDDENLY APPEARS
AND SHE SAVED MY CAT...
WE WERE SO DAMN HAPPY WHEN YOU CAME INTO OUR SHOP!
IS SPONSORED BY FASHION MAGAZINES AND THERE WILL BE MANY SHOPS PARTICIPATING.
IT WILL BE HOLLYHOCK'S FIRST SHOW. SO WE THOUGHT THAT IT WOULD BE BEST TO USE A TOTALLY NEW FACE AS OUR MODEL
WE HAD REALLY BEEN ON THE LOOK-OUT
You!! Die!!
THWACK
I GOT CARRIED AWAY, AND DROVE TETSUTA-KUN MAD...
SO THE CAT'S OWNER IS... UMM
IT'S ME! ☆
I SEE
Hi Kaho!
but yesterday,
he didn't look like the type.
here.
OKAY

This is... for me?
I DREW THIS DRESS FOR THE SHOW, WITH YOU IN MIND
BUT... I...
WITH MY HEIGHT...
"Weird."
"At that height."
BA-THUMP
I DON'T LOOK GOOD IN PRETTY DRESSES,
AND I REALLY HATE IT...
I'VE ALWAYS THOUGHT IT WOULD BE NICE IF THE MODEL WERE TALLER...
Eh?
K.G. Shakes
Beautiful...
Whoa...
BESIDES... THIS IS A DRESS FOR YOU...

I'M SURE THAT YOU'RE
THE BEST PERSON WHO FITS THIS DRESS COMPARED TO EVERYONE ELSE
WH
WHAT ARE YOUR TRUE FEELINGS?
ahhh...
shhh---
Come with me for a bit
ALL OF THEM.
?
Imposter
but
It still sounds fishy.
RUNS
RUNS
RUNS
RUNS
Staff Only
SFX. BAM
YOU!!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN HERE INSTEAD OF HELPING OUT IN THE SHOP?
Attending to the customers is also an important job!
Thanks for your help
TO MAKE UP FOR SKIPPING ON THE JOB I'VE DESIGNED THIS FABULOUS DRESS
Sure?
OF
OH! I'M SORRY FOR BEING A GENIUS!
YORI-CHAN IS HERE ANYWAY!
UH ?
ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THE MODEL?
THE GIRL IN THE GYMNASTICS UNIFORM?
WITH THE PLAIN & GLOOMY LOOKS?
Gymnastics Club
HAVE YOU CHANGED YOUR DRESS ...?
COUGH

I'm still a bit confused
I'm ashamed for even thinking, "This is not too bad."
The owner is an impostor after all!
I'm not getting confused anymore!
I just want to die!
Satisfied?
Yeah but not to you!
rattle rattle
HEY WILL YOU LET ME MEASURE IT?
It's for making the pattern
UH OH. Measure?
SWATCH
EH?
Speechless?!
UMM
HOW DOES IT LOOK?

SORRY
COULD YOU HOLD YOUR BREATH FOR A MOMENT?
Because your chest is moving.
O-OKAY
RAISE YOUR ARM
EH?!
ba-thump
thump
gently
...HIS BREATH
...HIS HAND

I keep getting pulled along

THANK GOD.
YOU ACTUALLY REALLY LIKE DRESSES!
TURNS
布屋
...
AHH, I
YES,
EVEN IF THEY ARE ALL THE SAME COLOR, THEY HAVE DIFFERENT FEELS AND DIFFERENT GLOWS
IS THAT ALL WHITE CLOTH?
I'M THINKING OF TRYING OUT DIFFERENT THINGS IN THIS FASHION SHOW.
And I think a cotton cloth suits Yori-chan
YOU REALLY LIKE TO MAKE DRESSES DON'T YOU?
YEAH.
BECAUSE, MY BEST ABILITY IS TO MAKE A GIRL LOOK PRETTY.
...
I SEE

AM I...
DOES THAT INCLUDE ME?
YEAH
I'LL SHOW IT TO YOU
At the show
Eh? Did I just say a pun?
Since I met him that day...
—The dresses that I had locked away, hidden in the back of the closet.
I couldn't open the door to throw them away...
But now I think I can reunite with them.
With the dresses that I really love.
Walking Practice
Let's try to walk as if there's a balance beam
Okay!
It's like gymnastics
Gymnastics Club
Stitch
Stitch

Oh shall we just leave him alone?
Shall we just watch?
A few more millimeters and he'll stab his face with the needles
SNOOZE
Cut that out
and have...
I want to make this show a success.
Study the show's drawing
Oh, you have the spirit
Ah, your waist became thinner?
Tetsuya-kun, you measure the panel line, okay?
confidence in myself.

EH?!
YOU'VE CHOSEN THE SHOW'S MODEL?!
YUP! IT'S MY SPECIAL GIRL
I told you that I want to do it!
Tsuya!
IT'S OKAY EVEN IF SHE'S NOT GOOD
BECAUSE THE MORE INEXPERIENCED SHE IS, THE MORE POTENTIAL SHE HAS
.....
YOU CAN'T DO THAT! YOU CAN'T USE AN AMATEUR!
I want to change.

I won't turn back.
YEAH?
That gloomy part of me
I WONDER IF I SHOULD CUT MY BANGS A BIT SO IT LOOKS BRIGHTER
HEY, MUCCHI!
I want to laugh.
snip
DO YOU WANT ME TO CUT IT?
Ah Chances!

I wonder what the owner will think.
.....
WELL?
IT'S GOOD ISN'T IT?
Gymnastics Club Girls
YEA
THANKS MUCCHI!
DON'T MEN TION IT
EEK! (STUPID) TAGAMI!
WHAT?
Ah?
!
Startle

YOU SAID THOSE THINGS ALL OF A SUDDEN!
I REALLY DON'T UNDERSTAND!
THE BANGS!
Didn't you hear it?
...YOU MR. OBLIVIOUS!
HUMPH
OFFENDED
HEY
What did you mean by that, oblivious??
WHERE?
EH?
Right? My Oblivious??
You said that girl is cute!
DON'T YOU THINK SO?
WHAT DO YOU THINK, YORI? YOU BECAME PRETTIER,
DEFEAT TAGAMI!
sfx rustling
NOT ONE THING
OF COURSE NOTHING CHANGES
JUST BY CUTTING YOUR BANGS
"Of course nothing changes."
FUKAGAWA
ACK
I DIDN'T MEAN
EH?
HEY
Don't you think it's a nice hairstyle?

Those words made me really happy.
ARE YOU HOLLYHOCK'S MODEL?
YES
?
They're beautiful
Are they models?
COMING OUT TO THE SHOW WITH THOSE LOOKS...
OH, HOW SHAME-LESS YOU ARE!
EH?
What a plain girl.
YUP! I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT TOUYA MEANT BY "IT'S OKAY EVEN IF SHE'S INEXPERI-ENCED."
OF COURSE IT'S NOT OKAY, RIGHT?
It's really not a sweet world, huh?
HUH?
"...just by cutting your bangs."
IT'S OKAY
"Not one thing."
I GET IT.
But...
"I'll show it to you!"

WHAT?
SO YOU'RE PERFORMING AN AMBUSH...
STOP CONFUSING MY GIRL BECAUSE YOU ARE JEALOUS
!
shudder
LET'S GO...
I bet she will screw up
IF I...
.....
...could do better...
No one would say things like these, and I won't take it as an issue.
I...
CAN'T BE A MODEL AFTER ALL

Even though I want to change.
I STARTED TO THINK THAT I'M NOT ANY GOOD
ALL THE TIME
WHY?
THERE WAS A GUY THAT I REALLY REALLY LIKED
WHEN HE TOLD ME THAT PRETTY DRESSES DON'T SUIT ME
IT'S NOT POSSIBLE FOR ME AFTER ALL
I DON'T THINK IT'S IMPOSSIBLE
I WANT TO STRIKE BACK AT WHAT THOSE PEOPLE SAID!
Compared to the cruel words of denial,
this person's kind words are nothing
"If you go to the show with those bad looks..."
.....

I don't want to be hurt anymore.
I'm scared
I'M REALLY SORRY FOR CAUSING YOU TROUBLE
THAT'S NOT FAIR.
...
I'LL WAIT FOR YOU TOMORROW.
SO MY WORDS DIDN'T REACH YOU AT ALL?
THAT MEANS, YOU WANT TO RUN AWAY AGAIN FROM SOMETHING YOU DON'T LIKE?

I'm pretty sure that...
"Are you running away again?"
"I don't think it's impossible."
encouraging me...
"It's a dress for you!"
"I'm sure that you're the best person to fit in this dress, compared to anyone else."
"Because, my best ability is to make a girl look pretty."
"I'll show it to you!"
Every single one of them
All night,
I reflected on the words that he said

hollyhock
FITTING ROOM
Did you hear
It looks like Hollyhock's model isn't coming!
Eh?!
What should we do?
But,
...no matter what, I'll always be weak.
If I don't try now, I would never change!
pant
pant
pant
CHATTER
CHATTER
CHATTER

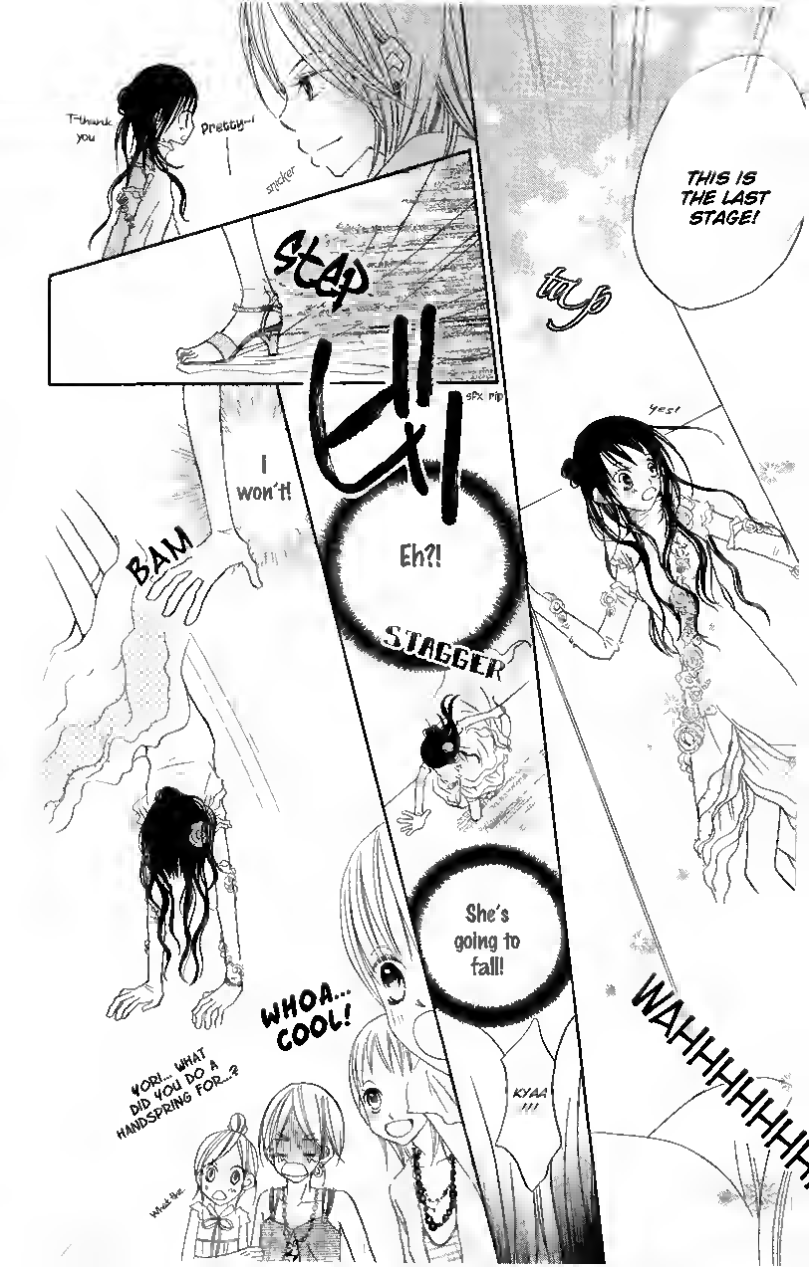
So you ended up staying up last night to finish the dress
Here's your coffee
BACK STAGE
AH! HERE YOU ARE!
TOUYA ♡
Sorry about yesterday
YEAH BUT,
HEY! YOUR MODEL ISN'T COMING RIGHT?
LET ME BE HER SUBSTITUTE
WE WON'T HAVE A SHOW IF YORI-CHAN ISN'T COMING
GEEZ!
WHY ARE YOU SO OBSESSED WITH THAT GIRL?!
pant
pant
That person
had since the beginning...
WHY ONLY THAT GIRL?
SHE HAS NEVER SHOWN HER PLEASURE WHEN WEARING MY DESIGNS
THAT'S NOT FAIR
I won't keep it like this
OWNER!

that he needed me.
...not hesitated to say
SMACK
EH?
IT'S PUNISHMENT FOR MAKING ME WORRIED
Ow
I'M SORRY
pyrt
pyrt
pyrt
HEY
YOUR BANGS
hmm
IT'S PRETTY
hollyhock
COME, LET'S GET READY
tap
.....

She looks gorgeous!!
GOSH! I'M TREMBLING—
WHAT?!
IS THAT YORI?!
Yori-chan! You look so pretty
OKAY
AWKWARD
AWKWARD
Smile...
Smile...
SHAKING
Smile...
Yeah but she became so pretty is that because of Hollyhock?
I guess she's nervous
Excitement
AMAZING
KYAAAAA—— So cute!!
KOAAAARR
holly hock
I'M BACK
EXHAUSTED
Wheeze
Wheeze
Under pressure
WELCOME BACK!
Tetsuya-kun! Next dress!
YORI-CHAN, RAISE YOUR ARM, PLEASE!
Opening
Show

SFX. RUSTLE
FIRST DRESS
EH ?
...She didn't know because there was no change of dress in the rehearsal
ACK
WAH!!!
GYA
AAH !!!
EEEK!!!
HHH
SORRY
← NEXT DRESS
SNICKER
SNICKER
GEEZ SHE REALLY IS AN AMATEUR
DON'T WALK STRANGELY IN THE MIDDLE OF THE RUNWAY, OKAY?
rustle
Eh?

JUST LIKE ORDINARY PEOPLE...
WE'RE NOT PROS
TUG
hollyhock
TUG
Fitting Room
DON'T LET THINGS LIKE THIS DECREASE YOUR MOTIVATION, OKAY?
OKAY...
Yeah.
I will fight for these guys.
...
You're pretty good, eh?
I won't give up.
SO WHEN YOU'RE IN TROUBLE, JUST PULL THIS LACE OKAY?
OKAY
Magic spell?
I'LL CAST A MAGIC SPELL FOR YORI-CHAN.
RIGHT
GET READY NOW!
Whubing
COMMOTION


THIS IS THE LAST STAGE!
tap
yes!
Thank you
Pretty~!
sniker
STEP
spx rip
I won't!
Eh?!
BAM
STAGGER
She's going to fall!
WAHHHHHHH
KYAA!!!
WHOA... COOL!
YORI... WHAT DID YOU DO A HANDSPRING FOR...?
What the

THE SKIRT
WOW
Landing
sfx lands
chatter
!
UHH...
thump
What should I do?!
thump
thump
...Oh.
I have to fix this up!
thump
chatter
"When you're in trouble, just pull this lace!"
thump
Fast!
chatter
chatter
slip
thump

WAHHHHH
AMAZING
INCREDIBLE
SO CUTE!
So this is the reason you stabbed up last night.
YOU'RE THE WORST!
JEALOUS?
I'M A GENIUS I JUST KNEW THAT THAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN.
What's going on?
WHAT THE ...? YOU! RE THE MAIN CULPRIT AREN'T YOU?!
You're sick
GEEZ! DON'T YOU HEAR ME!?
Enjoy it, OK?
FROM TOMORROW ONWARDS, WE'LL BE BUSY!
WELL, I'M GOING NOW!

I cast a magic spell for Yori-chan.

Whoa...

Eh...

my first and last show ended-
And, my part-time work is over, too
But, the owner's magic spell remains
That's how,
.....
HEY,
HELPING YOU AT A CRITICAL TIME,
I'M LIKE A HERO DON'T YOU THINK?
Eeek! That's Hubby-kun's owner!
He's handsome
Owner.

That's why,
huff
huff
huff
from now on,
it's my turn
to bring myself to that lovely place laden with lots of lovely things.
WHAT
SO YOU LIKE YORI?
!?
AND YOU WERE SHY WHEN YOU SAW HER ON FREE-UNIFORM DAY?!
THEN WHY DID YOU SAY THOSE THINGS!
And you even said that hair-like thing about her bangs!
THAT'S INCLUDING HER BANGS!
SHE WAS SO PRETTY FROM THE BEGINNING!
That's What I Meant!
YOU SHOULD STUDY AND FIX YOUR LANGUAGE!

- Mizutama Fabric / End -

Mizutama Fabric

Credits

Story 1

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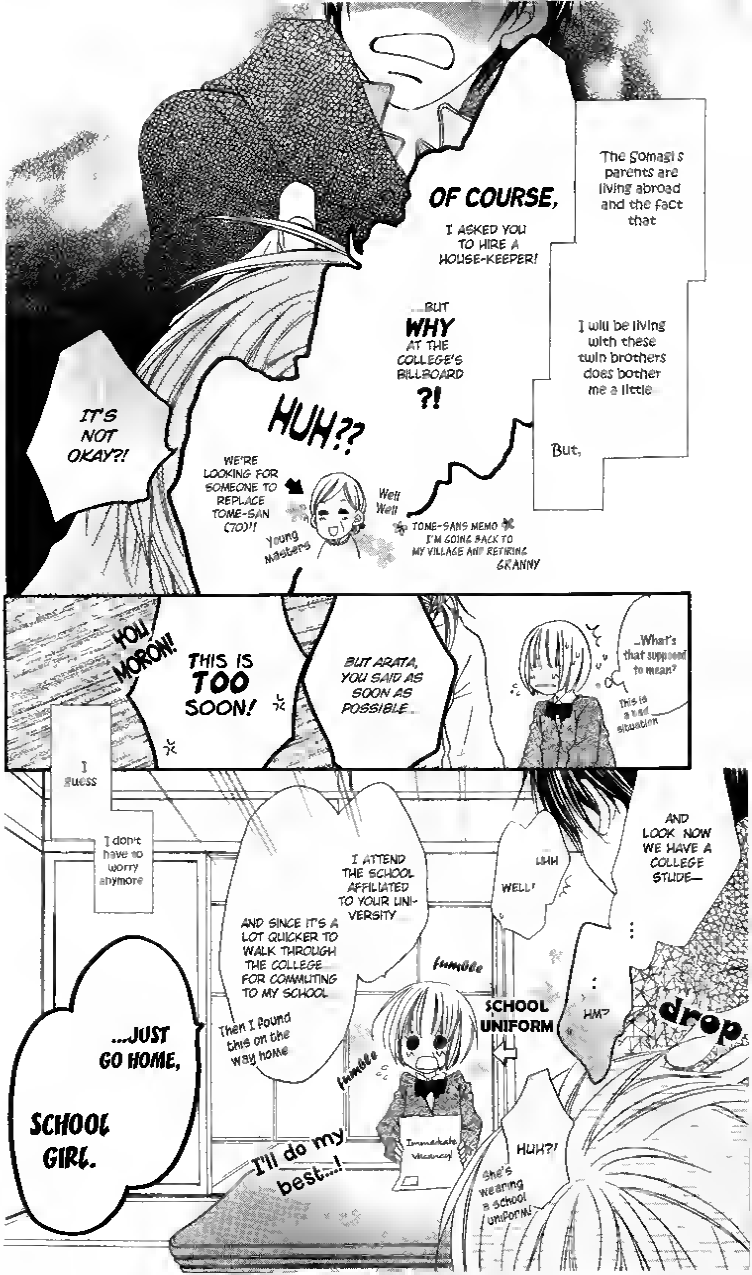
The Love Affairs at the Somagi's

I just wanted to have a "place" to live.

SO
YOU'RE THE NEW HOUSEKEEPER ...?
*Somosi Household
IT'S A PLEASURE TO MEET YOU
I'm Umino Kujira, 16 years old
YES.
I SAW THIS AT THE UNIVERSITY'S BILLBOARD
Due to some circumstances, from now on...
Hiring Housekeeper
Able to do basic household chores
No other tasks
Living in

.....
I have to live with the twin brothers
In a big mansion—
Lights
SOMAGI ARATA (21)
SCHOOL OF EDUCATION
EDUCATION OF NATIONAL ANGUAGE DEPARTMENT
YEAR 3
.....
THIS IS TAKUMI'S POST?
please call me
Biology Department Year 3
SOMAGI TAKUMI
090-0000-0000
as a live in housekeeper.
WHAT A RELIEF, RIGHT ARATA?
WE FOUND HER SO FAST!
YEP.
SOMAGI-TAKUMI (21)
SCHOOL OF SCIENCE
BIOLOGY DEPARTMENT
YEAR 3
PUNCH
BUKK
Why did you decide this by yourself?!
Mi
ka
ta
Uwaa


OF COURSE,
I ASKED YOU TO HIRE A HOUSE-KEEPER!
The Somagi's parents are living abroad and the fact that
I will be living with these twin brothers does bother me a little
But,
...BUT WHY AT THE COLLEGE'S BILLBOARD ?!
HUH??
IT'S NOT OKAY?!
WE'RE LOOKING FOR SOMEONE TO REPLACE TOME-SAN (70)!!
Young waiters
Well Well
TOME-SANS MEMO
I'M GOING BACK TO MY VILLAGE AND RETIRING
GRANNY
YOU MORON!!
THIS IS TOO SOON!
BUT ARATA, YOU SAID AS SOON AS POSSIBLE...
...What's that supposed to mean?
This is a sad situation
I guess
I don't have to worry anymore
I ATTEND THE SCHOOL AFFILIATED TO YOUR UNIVERSITY
AND SINCE IT'S A LOT QUICKER TO WALK THROUGH THE COLLEGE FOR COMMUTING TO MY SCHOOL
Then I found this on the way home
fumble
fumble
Immediate vacancy
...JUST GO HOME, SCHOOL GIRL.
I'll do my best...!
AND LOOK NOW WE HAVE A COLLEGE STUDE—
HHH
WELL
SCHOOL UNIFORM
HM?
drop
HUH?!
She's wearing a school uniform!!

!
I CAN'T GO BACK THERE!
UH WELL I MEAN
I MOVED IN TO LIVE WITH A RELATIVE WHEN MY PARENTS PASSED AWAY,
BUT NOW THIS RELATIVE IS MOVING AWAY TO A VILLAGE
I THOUGHT THAT THIS IS THE BEST OPPORTUNITY TO TRY TO DO MY BEST ON MY OWN
and so I thought
AND
BECAUSE YOU SAID THAT I COULD COME TODAY,
I QUICKLY GATHERED MY THINGS AND CAME HERE
PLEASE ACCEPT ME
THAT'S WHY...
YOU-
WE ARE BOTH TOO BUSY
WITH STUDIES AND PRACTICALS TO HAVE ANY TIME LEFT FOR HOUSEKEEPING
BESIDES SINCE WE'VE ALWAYS LEFT EVERYTHING TO TOME-SAN WE DON'T REALLY KNOW HOW TO
HUDGE
NO WAY.
FROM TOMORROW SHE'LL BECOME MY STUDENT FOR MY TEACHING PRACTICALS!
We can't live with her!
EH ?!
THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH THAT RIGHT?
AS LONG AS WE LIVE IN HARMONY IN OUR HOUSE AND ALSO IN SCHOOL
FURTHER MORE

OHMYGOD
UHM ...
PLEASE GIVE ME 2 HOURS!
?!!
Yikes!
ARE WE GOING TO KEEP IT LIKE THIS?
We're surely going to die.
ARE ...?
EH? YES?
I can't go back!
DAAA
corridor
Because I'm on my own
SCRUB
SCRUB
SCRUB
bathroom
I have to do my best!
leaps
GYAAAH
ROACH
toss
toss
kitchen
RIGHT, ARATA?
and the house is sparkling
DELICIOUUUUS ...
touch
phew
SHE'S NOT AS GOOD AS TOME-SAN
MUNCH
MUNCH
shock!
?!
SO
HOW IS IT?
warm
ba-thump
warm
warm
ba-thump

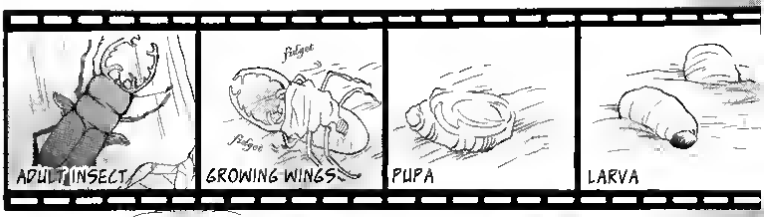
When I had to choose four short stories for this anthology I took out my stories and lined them up
My stories from the magazines bound with stickers.
Mizuno Fabric
Seven short stories I've drawn so far
dum
For a few days I was
dum
confused, and
dum
confused, and
Ah OKAY!
Aumble lets's play.
My Neighbor Ch
still confused
When I finally decided on the stories out of the four, three stories had girls with long black hair
Hair Pattern
HUH
Talk about miracles
*Translator's note: The stories that are compiled in this anthology were originally published in a manga magazine called LaLa.

I'LL GIVE YOU A "TRIAL" FOR A WEEK
I'LL DECIDE AFTER THAT
BUT
Well.
Munch
Munch
IT'S A LOT BETTER THAN EATING A LUNCH BOX FROM THE CONVENIENCE STORE
PEACHES
OUT
MORE PLEASE
I'll do my best
OKAY

Just like that,
from today,
my life as a trial housekeeper of the gentle-looking Takumi-san and the bit
unpredictable Arata-san has just begun.
Kajira san's Room

"It's okay... We'll give you money for your school fees from your inheritance."
"I'll tell you..."
I'm so glad they're good people
oh
huh
"When we took care of you"
"you were always trying to do something praiseworthy"
"Just makes me sick."
You're just like your mother
sob...
...Finally.
Finally.
I'll be glad if you leave.

Kujira-senpai-san
Ah! I'm coming
Could you come here for a sec?
?
AH! DO YOU WANT TO WATCH THIS DVD TOGETHER?
I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT HOW TO GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER
WE HAVE TO KNOW ABOUT EACH OTHER'S LIKES AND DISLIKES
AND I'VE SINGLED THESE ONES OUT.
What do you think?
This is not an Essay!
AH! MY PLEASURE!
Owrah, owrahhh!
WHICH ONE WOULD YOU PREFER WATCHING FIRST?
A COMPLETE COLLECTION OF ALL INSECTS
VOL. 1 Hawaiigata
Season V
3
*Also known as the Stag Beetle
Insect Otaku
I even brought the real Hawaiigata
Sh
24 Season V 3
A COMPLETE COLLECTION OF ALL INSECTS VOL. 1
THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS TO YOU WHEN YOU KEEP CHASING BUGS AT 21
Poor him
EH?
ARATA, THAT'S EPISODE 3 WE SHOULD WATCH FROM EPISODE 1!
AH
WELL I WATCHED EPISODE 2 YESTERDAY
AH
You~~~!!!
I WANT TO WATCH THE INSECT, PLEASE...!
...Why are these people so nice?
HERE IT GOES!
Ah gets it.
Because you're in the middle you hold the popcorn, okayz


ADULT INSECT
fidget
fidget
GROWING WINGS
PUPA
LARVA

FULL CONCENTRATION
Well who wouldn't get sleepy
!
NOD
Yawn
Sleepy

Oh, well...
Oh don't sleep

AHHH!
PUSH AWAY
I should turn her around because it'll be troublesome if Takumi got the wrong idea.
This girl is innocent
What a skinny shoulder
Humph

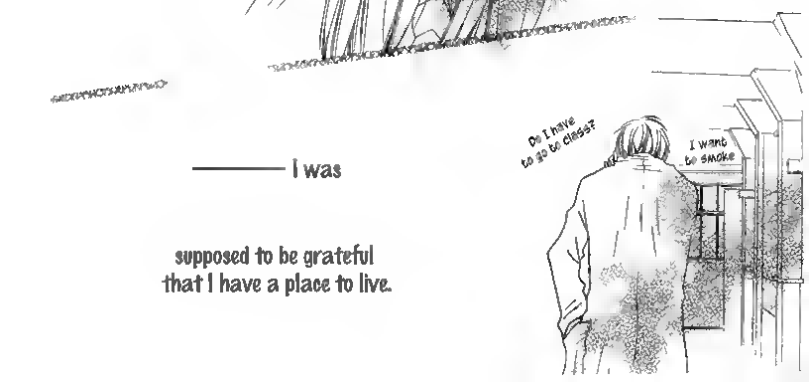
STARE—
THAT'S NOT IT
YOU'RE THE WORST
THEN YOU SHOULD HAVE WOKEN HER UP AND LET HER SLEEP ON THE FUTON*!
Keep your hands off the housekeeper
YOU WERE ATTACKING HER WHILE SHE WAS SLEEPING
SUCCESSFULLY MISUNDERSTOOD
*JAPANESE BED
tweet
tweet
tweet
Yesterday
was a chance to get to know them better
and I accidentally fell asleep
I only have one week to prove myself...
FLAP
FLAP
Ok, done!
Ah! I made it.
Morning!
GOOD MORNING!
WWW
And I might even become a homeless..
I wish I can turn back time!

I'VE MADE SOME RICE
I'LL PASS I'M IN A HURRY
HOWEVER,
STARTING FROM TODAY, I'M GOING TO BE TEACHING AT YOUR HIGH SCHOOL.
SO WE SHOULDN'T LET ANYONE KNOW THAT WE'RE LIVING TOGETHER.
You're right
OH, OKAY
You're saying that again!
I'LL ASK YOU TO LEAVE IF YOU GET BUSTED.
AH YOUR LUNCH BOX
I'll be careful, I promise
SLAM
ABOUT THAT BOY
SORRY
OH, IT'S OKAY
AH
BUT
WOULD YOU MIND GOING TO THE SUPER MARKET WITH ME THIS EVENING?
WELL, OKAY
?

I HAVE TO KNOW BOTH OF YOUR FAVORITE FOOD...
LIKE TAKUMI-SAN SAID YESTERDAY ..
GETTING TO KNOW EACH OTHER...
AHEM
I see.....
WHAT ABOUT ARATA?
WOULD HE COME ALONG IF I ASK HIM TO?
WELL
THERE'S A TRICK TO GET HIM MOVING...
A trick?
As expected of twins
EVERYTHING WILL BE FINE JUST PASS THIS NOTE TO HIM
ALONG WITH
THE LUNCH YOU'VE BOTHERED TO MAKE
See you later
OKAY.
The atmosphere that Takumi brought...

...that day, from the photo on the leaflets that I found
is overflowing.
I knew for sure that I could live with this person.
STEP
SOMAGI SENSEI!
STEP
STEP
STEP
Lunch break would be over before I could give this lunch box...
Teachers Lounge
He's never alone
I'll TRY TO FIND SOMETHING TO EAT
Oh you're so popular as always
Teachers Lounge
HIDE!
I DON'T REALLY LIKE HOMEMADE LUNCH
Teaching Friend
Student
UMM
I MADE PLENTY OF FOOD
If you want
I'M NOT GOING
WELL, LET'S GO TO THE SCHOOL CAFETERIA TOGETHER!
SENSEI... WHAT WILL YOU BE DOING THIS AFTERNOON?
Shock!
Ehh?

steps
steps
steps
Arata-san...
Ah, such a troublesome
AH,
WHERE ARE YOU GOING SENSEI?
I'm going with you!
TOILET
You can't go with me
Oh, here he comes?!
WE'LL GET EXPOSED.
Are you a moron?
crumple
Ah...
HE'LL DIE!!
If you don't come shopping, I'll tell her that you cried for someone when she was asleep
-TAKUMI-
?
takes
To Arata
OPENS
THIS IS FROM TAKUMI-SAN
I WON'T GO.
ARAT-
YES I'LL BE QUICK
I'M GOING TO THE SUPERMARKET WITH TAKUMI-SAN AFTER SCHOOL
WELL, IT'S HIS ROBE
DON'T GET IT MIXED UP WITH AN OTAKU'S WHITE ROBE
!
WHITE ROBE
YOU RE LIKE TAKUMI-SAN
BUT HE'S MADE ME ANGRY SO I'LL GIVE IT BACK TO HIM WITH CHALK DUST ALL OVER IT!
Rape! chalk dust
YOU TWO ARE REALLY CLOSE
PFFT
5 PM.
..Takumi-san!
"
WHAT TIME?



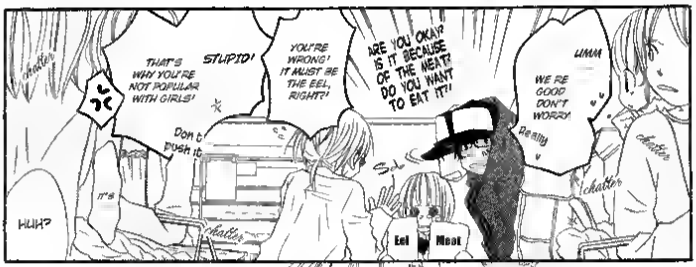
——— I was

supposed to be grateful
that I have a place to live.

SUN MART
I thought I've made that clear to myself.
Bugs are literally no hobby
You study them all the time
You even wear your white robe all the time...
WHY DON'T YOU EAT THESE BUGS, YOU LOVE THEM, DON'T YOU?
What I'm studying is the secrets of their DNA!
PICKLED BUGS
DNAs are awesome!!
GRILLED MEAT! I WANT GRILLED MEAT!
EEL! I WANT EELS!
Frozen Food
And what if we're found out by someone from school? It's risky!
He's paranoid
This loving and understanding relationship called
'family'...

I was not supposed to be envious of it.

That's how it was supposed to be.



Sob
I'M SORRY
Hic
FOR CRYING
Sob
Oh brat
Thanks
SHEESH
CRYING OUT LOUD IN A SUPERMARKET, HOLDING MEAT IN ONE HAND AND EEL IN THE OTHER...
C'MON, LET'S PAY FOR THOSE AND HEAD HOME.
SNIVEL
PAT PAT
OKAY.
Well, well
LET'S EAT THEM TONIGHT!
OK?
AH!
OK, OK.
LET'S EAT!
GRR.
I want to stay here...

I will do my best so I can stay here.

IT WAS THE FIRST TIME SOMEONE CALLED US
FRIENDLY TWINS .
NOT SO DOCILE EH?
STOP TALKING NONSENSE
RIGHT?
YOU'RE HAPPY? YOU'RE HAPPY?
RIGHT?
RIGHT?
ACK!
I'M HAVING A BATH NOW
HURRY UP AND GET THAT READY, OKAY!
SLAM
COS' I WANT TO HAND IT OVER TO KUJIRA-SAN!
OPEN
laundry
laundry
skap
skap
skap
skap

OH.
"Oh"?
OK
?!
STUN-
NED
UH, UH
UHH...
SORRR... SO..
SORRY...
HEY
I'M
SORRY!!
I'M
SOR-
HEY!
INSTEAD
OF SAYING
SORRY
PLEASE
GET OUT
OF HERE
YOU DON'T HAVE
TO KEEP WATCHING
WHEN OTHERS
ARE NAKED,
YOU KNOW?
.....A
A
AAAA
AAAAAAA
I feel like

I'm going around in circles.

NOOOOOOOOO!

KUJIRA-SAN? Are you okay?

Um

Uhh..

I just wanna die

!

NO..

"It's not good to see people naked."

I... I WANTED TO DO MY BEST...

"Instead of saying sorry please get out of here."

Shaka

AN ENDLESS CIRCLE OF SHAME!

EHH?!

IT'S NOT LIKE THAT! IT WAS AN ACCIDENT!

ACCIDENT! RIGHT, ARATA?

I'M NOT BLAMING YOU

I'm sorry for letting you see something like that!

I... I...

I'M SORRY FOR BEING A PERVERT!

WAH!

WAH!

I have developed two different working patterns when it comes to pasting the screen tones*

Pattern 1

When I still have some mental and physical strength to meet the submission due date, I will work quietly without talking to anyone. (Because I have no extra energy to talk.)

I can finish applying the tones for 40 pages in two days

BURNING SPIRIT

cut

cut

pause

pause

Pattern 2

When the due date is right around the corner and I have neither the mental nor the physical strength left in me. I'll go to my friends and get them to help me out

"Tensed up" from the joy of meeting her friends

Would you like some grapes? It's good for you~

NATURAL! Mmm

For this anthology, the Somari san story falls into the second category

*Translator's note: "Screen tones" are the patterned plastic sheets that give different shades of grey to the otherwise black and white manga.

ABOUT THE FACT THAT YOU KEPT STARING AT ME FOR QUITE SOME TIME, AM I?
smirk
You wants to get her down?
You re evil!
Nooooo
tweet
tweet
tweet
EHHH
THAT's certainly Arata's fault
She s out pulling weed since early morning
WHY'S THAT?
I didn t ask her to do it
HUH?
I didn't see
I didn't see
I didn't see
PULL
PULL
PULL
mumble
mumble
mumble
PROFOUNDLY DISTURBED AND SHAKEN

HERE
AH, YES
SO SHE'S NOT COMING AGAIN...
Gosh
BUT SOMAGI-KUN, YOU SAID YOU DON'T LIKE HOMEMADE LUNCH
EH?
I'M sorry
YES
WHAT IS IT, UMINO?
HM?
STARE
SHUDDER
Homeroom Teacher
ERR NOTHING
?!
NATIONAL LANGUAGE CL
EXCUSE ME
open
THERE'S AN EXCEPTION
chew
chew
WELL
Close
Well-
Is it from your girlfriend?
Eh? No way!
HEY
UMINO KUJIRA'S GUARDIAN WON'T COME TO THE MEETING AGAIN?
Yay. It makes me happy!
step
step
"There's an exception."
exception_

OH,
THAT'S THE BOY, RIGHT?
HER AUNT'S SON
YES, THAT'S HIM
I THINK SHE TREATS HER DIFFERENTLY...
HER OWN SON IN YEAR 1
WELL HER AUNT IS COMING FOR
So annoying!
HMM...
I HEARD THAT UMINO'S MOVING OUT...
I guess so
Another Teacher
MAYBE THAT'S FOR THE BEST
.....
HERE,
MY MUM SAID YOU FORGOT THIS
We found it while packing our stuff
From aunt
THANK YOU
?
SEE YOU THEN
I made this...
RUSTLE
Mother's day
To auntie
This...
raindrop
raindrop
raindrop

FOUR
.....
!!
!!
You need the nerds back
y... yes!
TURN
LISTEN WELL
OVER THERE
"Here."
"My mum said you forgot this"
Mother's day
To Auntie
Thank you!
I tried to make an apron for you please use it, okay?
KUNIRA
"My mum said.."

approaches
WOULD YOU LIKE TO GO HOME TOGETHER?
!
TAKUMI-SAN!
WHY ARE YOU HERE?
I WAS WORRIED THAT KUJIRA-SAN DIDN'T HAVE AN UMBRELLA
AH YES
IT'S MY PLEASURE TO GO HOME TOGETHER
"...you forgot this."

What a coincidence!
ARATA-SAN?!
EH?
click
HOP IN
HURRY UP HOP IN.
EHH??
She seems?
YOU'RE GETTING THE SEATS WET!
JUST HOP IN ALREADY!
ANNOYED!
Had intended to hop in
Ach okay
Let's walk
Nervous
Nervous
IF ANYBODY SEES
BUT IT'S IN SCHOOL
EH?!
I'LL WALK WITH TAKUMI-SAN

At a time like this
when he showed up
my heart became weak
WHAT DID YOUR COUSIN GIVE YOU?
!
"You always try to do your best in order to be praiseworthy."
YOU HAVEN'T BEEN YOURSELF SINCE LUNCH BREAK
and started whining.
"It makes me sick."
YOU DON'T HAVE TO TELL US IF YOU DON'T WANT TO
HE GAVE IT BACK TO ME
A PRESENT THAT I GAVE AUNTIE ON MOTHER'S DAY
IT'S AN APRON THAT I MADE MYSELF

I realized
EVEN THOUGH I'VE LIVED IN HER HOUSE FOR SEVEN YEARS,
I COULDN'T ADAPT WELL.
IT WAS ME WHO RAN AWAY
It makes it hard to breathe.
she didn't want to use it.
"I'll be glad if you leave."
BUT NOW
Grip
"My mum said that you forgot this."
SQUEEZE
YES YOU HAVE!
THEY'VE MADE IT CLEAR THAT I HAVE NO PLACE TO COME HOME TO.

YOUR HOME FROM WHERE YOU CAN LEAVE AND COME BACK TO IS ...
OUR HOUSE!
RIGHT ARATA?
.....
TO BE HONEST
I THINK THAT LIVING WITH A FEMALE STUDENT IS TOO RISKY FOR ME PROFESSIONALLY, AND IT'S ALSO ROTHERSOME
STAB
HER RICE IS NOT AS GOOD AS TOME-SAN'S,
STAB
AND SHE WAILS IN THE SUPERMARKET
AND ALSO A CARETAKER WHO PEEKS WHEN YOU'RE HAVING A BATH IS REALLY SOMETHING
STAB
.....
AND I ALSO THINK THAT SOMEONE WHO ROTHERS YOU WHEN YOU'RE DRIVING IS REALLY SOMETHING
TWIST
TWIST
TWIST

TAKUMI HAS ALWAYS BEEN ABLE TO JUDGE PEOPLE WELL.
SO DO AS YOU WISH.
UHM
?
HAND
KEEP IT.

KEY...
THAT ANCIENT KEYCHAIN ISN'T MINE,
TAKUMI GOT IT IN A GAME CENTER.
Just so you know
It's not ancient!
CAN I REALLY KEEP IT?
KEY.
vroom
Well
IF YOU DON'T HAVE A KEY, YOU CAN'T COME INTO THE HOUSE, RIGHT?
Did your aunt never lock her doors?
?
I'LL TREASURE IT.
DO IT THEN.
pat pat

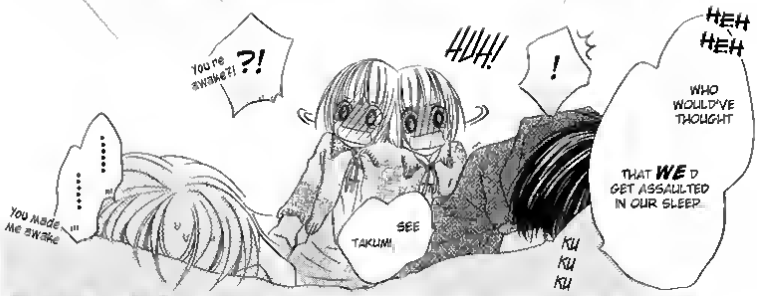
Don't bring that up!
?
LOVE♥
THAT WE'RE "FRIENDLY TWINS".
WHEN KUJIRA-SAN SAID
YOU SEE,
BOTH ARATA AND I WERE HAPPY
—WE
BECAUSE WE WEREN'T RELATED BY BLOOD, WE WERE CONSCIOUS ABOUT BEING A FAMILY, BUT
EH —?
BUT ACTUALLY WE ONLY BECAME BROTHERS SINCE OUR PARENTS REMARRIED WHEN WE WERE 10 YEARS OLD
WERE TOO LAZY TO EXPLAIN IT SO WE JUST LET EVERYONE THINK THAT WE'RE TWINS
YOU'VE MADE IT CLEAR WHAT A FAMILY IS
WE USED TO LIVE APART,
BUT NOW THAT WE ARE LIVING TOGETHER,
IT WOULD BE GOOD IF WE COULD SHARE OUR NEW FOUND HAPPINESS TOGETHER

be mine,
too...
HUH -?!
?!
Wha...
breeze
breeze
May it someday
The happiness
that slowly and
little by little
piles up together...
YES
I'LL DO
MY BEST

Thump
I-it's a holiday today and the weather was nice..
Thump
① WE HUNG OUT THE FUTON ON THE VERANDA.
② I FELT GOOD AND IDLED AWAY WITH TAKUMI-SAN THEN,
BEFORE I KNEW, WE WERE ASLEEP
③ WHEN I OPENED MY EYES, ARATA-SAN WAS ALSO SLEEPING
His arm became her pillow
A "Kawa~" letter?
What?!
*SHE MEANS THEIR FORM TOGETHER LOOKS LIKE A JAPANESE LETTER KAWA => 川
Ah
pat
pat

pat

PFFT
What am I doing?!
Takumi's right hand!
Arata's right hand...



——— And today, too...

these little moments that we share make up our days.

I'll go clean the bathroom

MIZUTAMA FABRIC STORY 2 / END

Mizutama Fabric

Credits

Story 2

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MICHIBIKI
NO TSUE
the staff of Guidance

The ones who guide the spirits of the people who,
due to various circumstances, wander between life and death
are called messengers
HMM?
SO
I'M the head of the branch
FROM TODAY ONWARDS, SHE'LL TRAIN AT YOUR PLACE
I'M HOTARU, THE APPRENTICE!
I'LL DO MY BEST!
I'M DEPENDING ON YOU VETERAN TWINS!
The place
ROAR
One for this world and one for the other world
is Japan's subdivision of the Administration Bureau, which has two gates
Female Katsuki Obaba September 17 1959
BEEP
SO NOW HER PARENTS ARE OVERSEAS?
YES
ALTHOUGH IT WOULD BE BETTER IF THERE IS SOMEONE SHE KNOWS BESIDE HER WHEN SHE OPENS HER EYES
YOU'RE RIGHT

Nice to meet you
and
I'M RYOKU
I know
YES.
YOU TWO ARE FAMOUS IN MY SCHOOL.
REALLY?
AH, SORRY.
ASO IS A BIT SHY,
BUT HE'S A NICE PERSON
GRAB
HEY, WAIT!
Clack
WHAT A CHEERFUL AND A NICE GIRL, SHE IS! ISN'T SHE?
IT LOOKS LIKE YOU DON'T KNOW THAT YOU'RE CALLED "THE DROPOUTS" WITHIN THE SUBDIVISION.
BECAUSE YOU DON'T PUT UP WITH THE REGULATIONS
chuckle
ARE YOU THREATENING ME?
I'll work hard!
Thank goodness I ghtz
...OUR AGREEMENT WAS TO TAKE
Nanoji has it been already?
ONE APPRENTICE PER YEAR, RIGHT?
WELL, YOU KNOW WE NEVER HAVE ENOUGH MESSENGERS, DON'T YOU?
One per year wouldn't suffice.
...ALSO
PUTTING THIS ASIDE
NOPE
I DON'T THINK IT'S BAD THAT
SHE IS SIMILAR TO YOU TWO

SOMEHOW, WE SHOULD MAKE THAT SPIRIT CHOOSE THE RIGHT DOOR
WE SHOULD GUIDE HER
Here
THIS IS TODAY'S SPIRIT DATA
ROU AND YOU, APPRENTICE!
LET'S GO!
IT'S RYOKU!
Uwa
CLICK
doki doki
AND WITH THIS,
WE BECOME PARTNERS
24
18
12
I ENTRUST THE TIME LIMIT CLOCK TO YOU!
EH?
some thing this important?

KOIZUMI OTOHA, 17 YEARS OLD,
MEIMON MUSIC SCHOOL, PIANO DEPARTMENT, 2ND YEAR IN THIS SCHOOL
HER PARENTS ARE ALSO MUSICIANS AND CURRENTLY BUSY OVERSEAS WITH RECITALS
and
bwi
SINCE BEFORE, SHE HAS ALWAYS WON IN CONTESTS
LOOKING AT HER PERSONAL INFO, SHE'S OF THE ELITE CLASS.
They are called "the staffs".
to guide the spirits.
BECOME A "STAFF" BY ALL MEANS.
OKAY!
The path to becoming a "messenger"
is a steep and frustrating one.
Only those who overcome that
are allowed

HOTARU!
GRAB
THAT DRIVER IS AWFUL.
LET'S GO QUICKLY AND TELL HER SPIRIT THAT, AND MAKE IT RETURN TO HER BODY!
IF SHE REALLY WANTED TO RETURN
HER SPIRIT WOULDN'T BE WANDERING AROUND...
flip
TODAY AT 3:04 PM ON HER WAY HOME FROM SCHOOL, SHE GOT HIT AT THE CROSS-ROAD
BY A CAR THAT RAN A RED LIGHT
HER SPIRIT INSTANTLY SEPARATED FROM HER BODY
HUH
?
BECAUSE SHE HAS A REALLY STRONG EMOTION
SHE CAN'T CHOOSE WHETHER TO LIVE OR TO DIE
—— Emotion, huh?
There she is.
daki
Turn
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
Female Kotzue Deaths September 17 1990

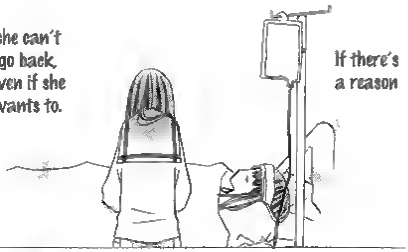
UMM, MY NAME IS HOTARU
THE PROBLEM THAT YOU'RE STRUGGLING WITH ALONE...
LET ME HELP YOU SOLVE IT!
KOIZUMI OTOHA-SAN!
depend
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
...YOU THICK-SKINNED GIRL!
(WAIT) AHHH.
I'M SORRY...
I'M
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
ANYWAY...

...This time, carefully.
WHAT ARE YOU WATCHING?
NOTHING
SHE'S SWIFTLY RUNNING ALONE
float
WHO ARE YOU GUYS?

I can't explain it well but
Ah
THAT IS
"THE APPROPRIATE DOOR?"
I'M TELLING YOU THIS SUDDENLY CAN YOU UNDERSTAND IT?
BUT
he he
THE APPROPRIATE DOOR MEANS
WE... WE ARE
THE OFFICIALS WHO GUIDE WANDERING SPIRITS LIKE YOU TO THE APPROPRIATE DOOR

...THERE ARE TWO GATES FOR THE SPIRITS THAT ARE SEPARATED FROM THEIR BODIES.
ONE GATE LEADS YOU TO THE OTHER WORLD, AND THE OTHER GATE LEADS YOU BACK TO YOUR BODY
THE ONES WHO CHOOSE BETWEEN THESE GATES ARE THE SPIRITS THEMSELVES.
AND OUR JOB IS TO OPEN THE GATE YOU'VE CHOSEN
...THEN I HAVEN'T DIED
YET?
YES!
YOU CAN RETURN TO YOUR BODY IMMEDIATELY!
...I DON'T FEEL LIKE GOING BACK
...EH?
I JUMPED IN FRONT OF THE CAR ON MY OWN.
...But
...WHY?
wasn't it because you had some strong emotions about this side?

BECAUSE I WANTED TO DIE.
That you wanted to realize
and you were wandering because of it?
WELL, IT'S WITHIN OUR EXPECTATIONS, RIGHT?
...Even if it was like that...
...IT WAS A SUICIDE, HUH?
...!
Hoot
AH...!


she can't go back, even if she wants to.
If there's a reason

FREETALK
Just the day before my friend came my reading lamp was knocked over Then it broke I didn't have the interest or the power to go to the electronics store (a five minute walk) then I took the trace lamp and replaced it for my reading lamp
Thank goodness it turned out to be pretty bright
Already happy to do anything
It's brighter & cool!
Isn't it cool?
Trace lamp
than a reading lamp!
They're kind
Um you're right!
This time, there was so much work to do and I got help from Hero-san
Able to do anything.
Hero-san is nice and
Thank you everyone

Grr-
WE CAN'T DO ANYTHING
IT'S SO IRRITATING THAT
"She's swiftly running alone."
THAT'S WHY
PLEASE TEACH ME TO BE A DO-THE-BEST PERSON.
"Do-the-best person" she says and is kind to all people
UH ...
HOW SHOULD I TEACH YOU BY WORDS?
THAT

WE WON'T BE UNWILLING TO LET YOU LEARN
WHILE YOU'RE WITH US
IT'S ALRIGHT TO LEARN AS MUCH AS YOU CAN
I'll do my best!
OKAY.
COLD!! IT DOESN'T SUIT YOU～
YOU'RE SHOWING OFF WAY TOO MUCH, ASO!!
Ah... Ah...
Remaining Time
Is 18 hours.
float
12
ARE YOU GOOD AT THIS GAME?
I'VE NEVER PLAYED IT.
IT IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE COME TO A PLACE LIKE THIS
EH?!
THEN WHERE DO THE WELL-RAISED PEOPLE PLAY?
Ah! I said unnecessary things

Everytime I receives your letters I cried I laughed or answered (Please don't be afraid of me) while I was reading them

I'm so glad that you're sending your own drawings as well thank you

When I lose heart I reread them and I gain strength I become lively

I'll do my best to quickly reply to all your letters

I also thank every one who sent various items with the letters I treasure them display them in my room and use them well

IT'S JUST THAT I HAD LESSONS EVERYDAY AFTER SCHOOL
SO I DIDN'T EVER HANG OUT ON THE WAY
Well raised!
chuckle
NO, NOT LIKE THAT
WELL
EVERYONE IN THE SOCIAL CIRCLE WAS THE SAME
PEOPLE WHO HAVE NOTHING BUT MUSIC
SO IT WAS EASY, BUT
...

reach
CAN I TOUCH IT?
I SEE
said
SO COLD! WHY DO YOU TALK LIKE THAT!
THAT'S PROVIDENCE
UWAA ... SO INFLEXIBLE ..!
THERE'S A RULE
DECIDED THAT WE WOULDN'T INTERVENE WITH THE REAL WORLD
EH?
UMM
I WONDERED IF I WILL BE ABLE TO TOUCH THINGS
YOU CAN'T.
AH ...
UMM...
Hey look
ISN'T THERE SOMETHING BOTHERING YOU ALL THIS TIME?
.....
... I WONDER WHERE I GOT INJURED...

WHETHER BOTH OF YOUR HANDS THAT PLAY THE PIANO ARE OK
EH?!
WELL, SHALL WE SEE THEN?
smile
HEY
YOU TWO COME AS WELL!
float
Eh?! Where to?
To the hospital
AH, I SEE ... IN THIS CONDITION
YOU CAN'T TOUCH THE MATTRESS SO YOU CAN'T LOOK AT THEM.
touch
IT'S OKAY. THERE'S NO PROBLEM WITH YOUR HANDS OR NERVES.

THEN
THANK GOOD-NESS
touch
YOU LIKE THE PIANO RIGHT?
That's why
Aah.
I see...
you can't move from here right?

* Likely referring to Pachelbel's Canon (Canon in D Major)
Often played at weddings
I DON'T UNDERSTAND
WHEN I LISTENED TO MY MOTHER'S CANON* FOR THE FIRST TIME
I THOUGHT THAT I WANTED TO TRY TO PLAY LIKE THAT.
SO I STARTED PLAYING THE PIANO.
I wanted to get closer to that twinkling sound.
I WAS SEEN AS "THE CHILD WHOSE FUTURE WILL BE THE PIANO."
AND I WAS ABLE TO WIN EVEN IN BIG CONTESTS.
I ENJOYED EVERYDAY'S LESSON.
Piano was everything.
BUT
I genuinely loved it.

I WASN'T ABLE TO HEAR MY OWN PIANO'S SOUND
Gradually
It became ugly
my heart weakened.
WHEN I REALIZED
I declared that I wanted to enroll at the Meimon Music School.
Continuous evaluations day after day,
I was defeated by the evident difference of the talented people.
I was envious.
I'd selfishly show off many things
I wouldn't listen to any of the kind words that people said to me.
Am I now like this
I didn't have anyone to rely on.

It was hard. Very hard.

I didn't stop.

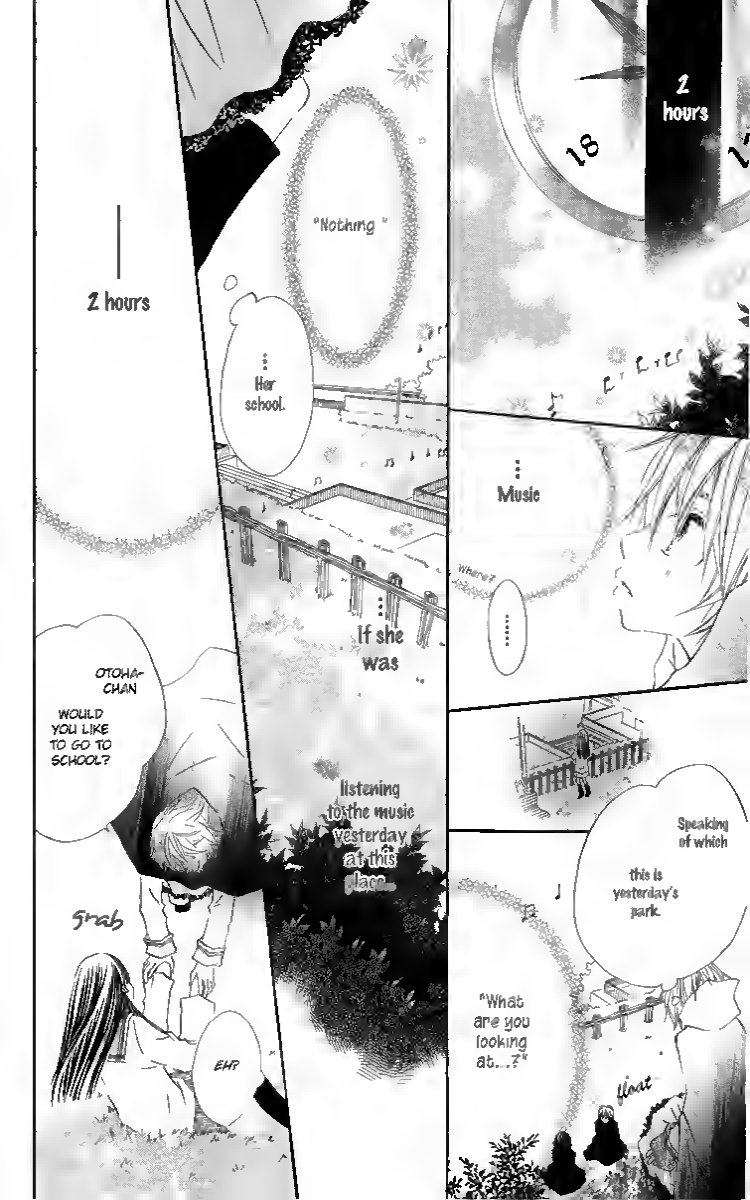
LIKE AN IDIOT…
…LIKE AN IDIOT.
…YOU HAVE TIME UNTIL 3 PM TOMORROW TO CHOOSE ONE OF THE GATES
SO
fly
YOU DON'T HAVE TO ANSWER IN HASTE.
12
Remaining time is 12 hours.

HOTARU.
FRUSTRATED?
.....
IT'S NORMAL TO FEEL CONFUSED BECAUSE OUR JOB DOESN'T HAVE A CORRECT ANSWER.
BUT
WE DON'T HAVE TIME TO FEEL SO
THE SPIRITS ONLY HAVE 24 HOURS
OUR JOB IS TO DO WHAT WE CAN TO MAKE THEM CHOOSE THE GATE THAT THEY WON'T REGRET
The door that they won't regret?

YES.
Ghost
HEY!
ROU AND THE APPRENTICE, LET'S GET GOING
TO WHERE?
Otoha-chan said
"I want to try to do what everyone does after school" with a smile

shopping
Does it suit me?
So cute!
karaoke
We
intruding
clap clap
Aquarium
We
made the water
Cinema
don't think too much about it
ave.
sigh
AH
WASN'T IT FUN...
YES.

sigh
IT WAS FUN.
IF I DID THESE KINDS OF THINGS OFTEN I WONDER IF MY HORIZONS WOULD BROADEN.
AND I WOULDN'T COLLAPSE WITH ONE LITTLE MISSTEP.
...
BUT NOW I'M AFRAID OF GOING BACK.
YOU KNOW, YOU CAN STILL DO WHATEVER YOU WANT.
...YEAH.
Remaining time:


2 hours
"Nothing"
Her school.
If she was
OTOHA-CHAN
WOULD YOU LIKE TO GO TO SCHOOL?
Grab
EH?
listening to the music yesterday at this place...
2 hours
Music
Where?
Speaking of which
this is yesterday's park.
"What are you looking at...?"
Woof

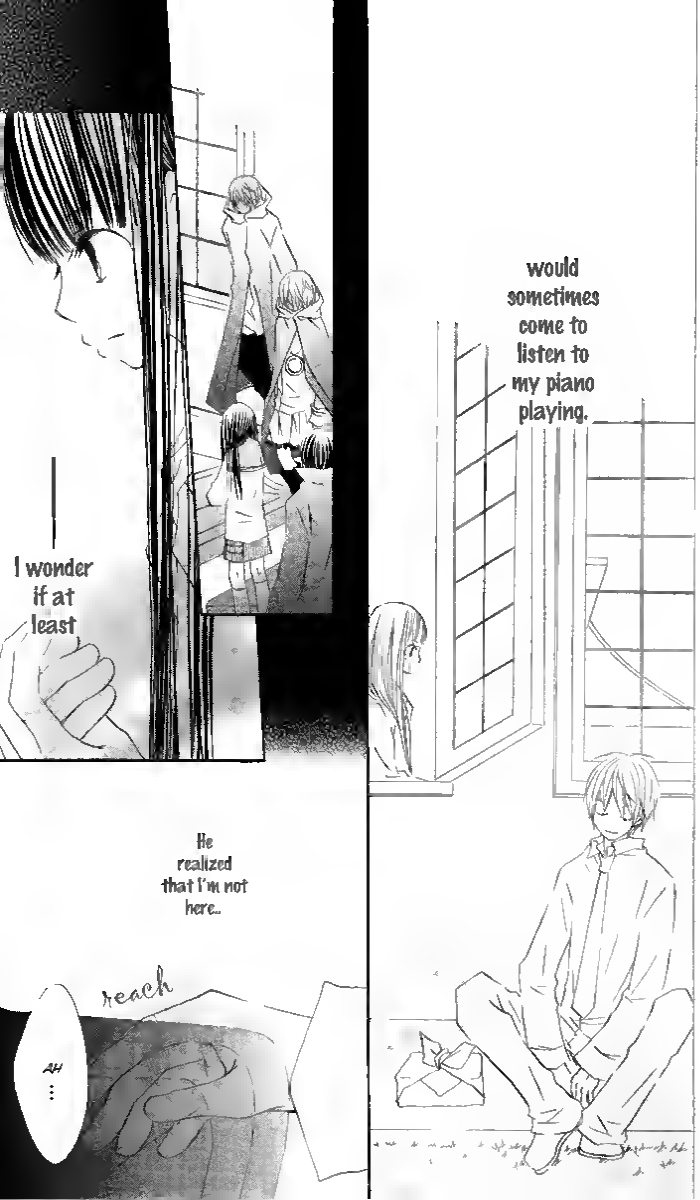
hold
I have a bad premonition
OKAY
...something may change.

EVERY DAY DURING LUNCH BREAK
I'D COME HERE
TO PLAY THE PIANO OR MEMORIZE PIECES LISTENING TO CD
Private Lesson Room
classroom

WOW...! WHAT A GREAT LUNCH BREAK!
crunch
HM?
WHEN I WAS SAD,
I'D ALWAYS FULLY OPEN THE WINDOW AND THEN PLAY "CANON"...
Also that day...
pop up

Din
ng
clap
clap
GREAT!
clap
clap
THAT WAS A REALLY WONDERFUL "CANON"!
startle
AAH ! SORRY FOR SHOWING UP ABRUPTLY!
I'M A 2ND YEAR FROM TUNING DEPARTMENT, FUJIO TAKUMI.
Who are you anyway?
WHAT IS IT?
WHA
AFTER I ATE MY LUNCH,
I HEARD A REALLY BEAUTIFUL "CANON"
THAT WAS A STRONG SOUND
MAY I ASK YOUR NAME?

He immediately called me Otoha
KOIZUMI OTOHA!!
A GOOD NAME "OTOHA" HUH
I'M 2ND YEAR FROM THE PIANO DEPARTMENT, KOIZUMI OTOHA
←STRONGLY DEFEATED
Hey I'll call you Otoha
IS IT OKAY IF FROM NOW ON I LISTEN TO YOUR PLAYING HERE?
UHAN
I WON'T DISTURB YOU, WILL I?
EH?
IF YOU
IF YOU DON'T TALK
After that
Fujio-kun
Okay


would sometimes come to listen to my piano playing.
I wonder if at least
He realized that I'm not here..
reach
Ah…

I WISHED TO PLAY "CANON" FOR THE LAST TIME..
I FORGOT I CAN'T TOUCH IT..
I DON'T CARE EVEN IF IT CAN'T BE HEARD
.....
! If
"I'm afraid of going back."
It something
She can touch the piano..
changes
THAT'S NOT PERMIT-TED
HEY!
SOUND.

DO YOU UNDER STAND?
A RULE IS A RULE!
YES, I KNOW
Oh
I ALSO KNOW THAT BECAUSE YOU TWO DON'T FOLLOW THE REGULATIONS
YOU'RE CALLED "THE DROPOUTS" AMONG "THE STAFFS"
STAGGER
Ah we're exposed hee hee
Among the examples of practical cases
WE, THE APPRENTINCES, ALWAYS ADMIRED YOU
BUT
theirs were
STRIVING TO THE VERY END TO MAKE THE SPIRITS CHOOSE THE BEST PATH
.....
IT IS NOT STRIVING THAT MAKES YOU EXCEED THE REGULATION'S SCOPE
24

BUT JUST PRIDE.
YES
I WILL TAKE THE RESPONSIBILITY MYSELF, BUT I'M YOUR APPRENTICE SO I'LL APOLOGIZE BEFOREHAND.
BOW
Advance notice
I'M SORRY I'LL CAUSE PROBLEMS.
OI!
You don't understand do ya!!
Was- an interesting kid has joined us
PON
WITH MY POWER YOU CAN TOUCH IT.
JUST FOR A FEW MINUTES
IS THAT OK?
YES
WHATEVER YOU SAY, YOU DON'T HAVE THE PERSUASIVE POWER
damn
WE'RE "THE DROPOUTS", AFTER ALL.
AHHHA
Isn't that your fault?
AH
touch
grab

clatter
clatter
PLEASE LET US LISTEN TO YOUR PIANO
WE CAN HEAR THE SOUND
sigh

YOU GUYS CAN WRITE THE APOLOGY REPORT RIGHT?
Whatever he says he's actually a nice guy
YES.

Woah
... Further
BAN
carry this sound
BAN
pon
further away
Further

Make it reach
tap
tap
tap
tap
tap
tap
BAM
OTOHA?
pant
pant
pant
pant
pant

I COULD HEAR OTOHA'S PIANO FROM THIS ROOM!
WHAT HAPPENED? ALL OF A SUDDEN?
HUH?
pant
pant

Fujio-kun?!
Move away
OC
Wha?
WHAT?
No one's here...
Look
pant
He can't see us. He can't see.
I... I got shocked!
Hide

AND ABOVE ALL THINGS
BUT THE SOUND OF OTOHA'S CANON'S BROKEN CHORD IS VERY UNIQUE
AN ACCIDENT
said you heard from a girl from the piano department
DIDN'T YOU JUST SAY THAT THAT GIRL IS HOSPITALIZED BECAUSE OF

I'D NEVER
CONFUSE HER SOUND WITH SOMEONE ELSE'S.

I KNOW YOUR EARS ARE UNRIVALED IN THE SCHOOL BUT
THAT'S PHYSICALLY IMPOSSIBLE, RIGHT?
LOOKS LIKE SOMEONE WAS JUST PRACTICING
ANGRY
SINCE KOIZUMI ENTERED HIGH SCHOOL SHE HAS NEVER WON ANY COMPETITIONS, RIGHT?
OHHH HE'S SO BACK TO CLASS
YOU'VE ALSO SAID HER PLAYING WAS WEIRD THE PAST FEW DAYS
IT MAY BE ALREADY IMPOSSIBLE
SHE'LL COME BACK.
A PERSON WHO COULD MAKE A BRILLIANT SOUND LIKE THAT
CAN'T EASILY THROW THE MUSIC AWAY.
THE NEXT TIME I'LL IGNORE OUR AGREEMENT AND DEFINITELY TALK TO HER!
DO YOUR BEST, LATE BLOOMER!
PAT
"Can't"

Even if I go back
I will surely be hurt again because of a trivial thing.
But
I will still recognize the ones with merits.
"the music away."
"easily throw"

There were countless times that I felt delight to the point that my heart would tremble.
BECAUSE I LOVE THE PIANO.
BAM
...I WANT TO TRY MY BEST ONCE AGAIN

I'M THANKFUL FOR
YOUR SUPPORT
I'll always always

pray for you.
CAN YOU SEE THE GATE?
YES

WHEN YOU WAKE UP, YOUR MEMORY HERE WILL BE ERASED
GO FORWARD WITHOUT TURNING AROUND
GOOD BYE, OTOHA-SAN

breath

He ran all the way from school.
breath
breath
breath

WE'RE SORRY.
YUP.
You must be
Do as
Joyfully
You'll have to stay as a trainee until you do 100 cases.
THIS ONE WON'T BE COUNTED IN HER TRAINING.
BECAUSE HOT RU IS AT FAULT THIS TIME,
WOW
!?
DON
DON
YOU! JUST GO AND DO YOUR TRAINING AT ANOTHER STAFF'S PLACE!
What, I really need confirmation.
Resign!
Eh? You're mean!
I FORGOT!
YOU SAID I COULD LEARN THE WAY TO BE THE DO-THE-BEST PERSON
AH
WAIT A MOMENT!
A few days later

I will be up there.

Mizutama Fabric

Credits

Story 3

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QCer littlepinkrose12

Special Thanks to love & Chubi-chan

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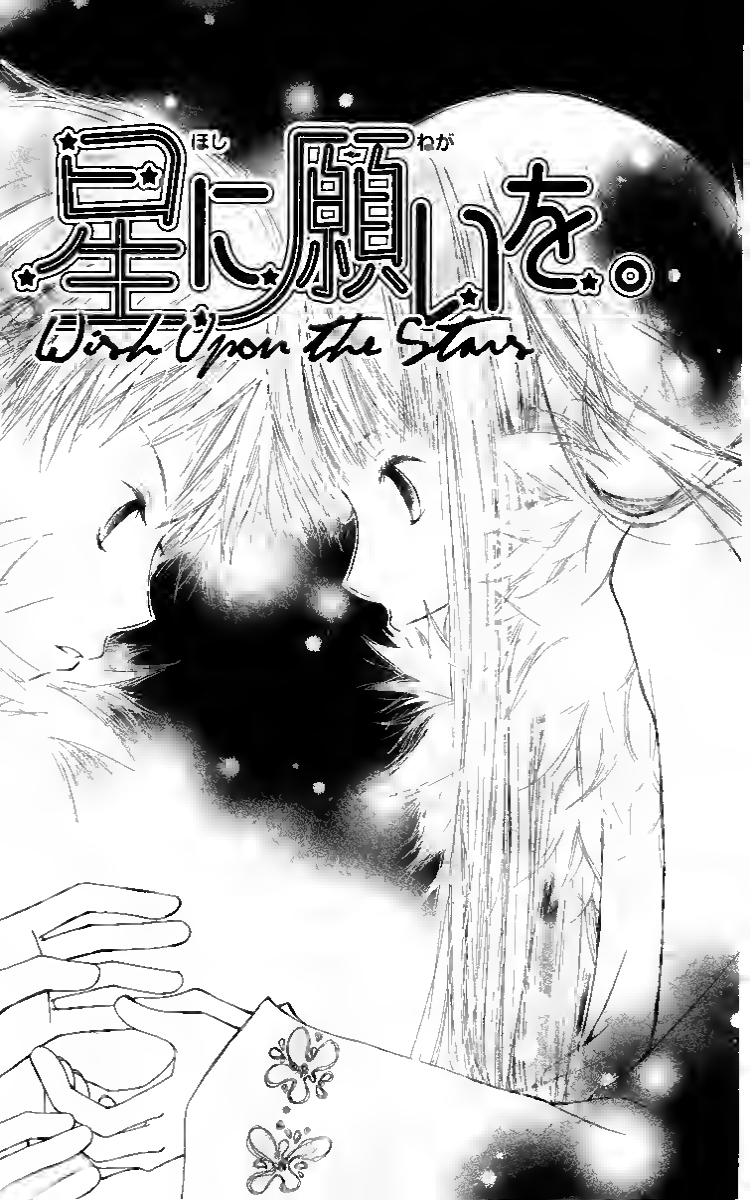
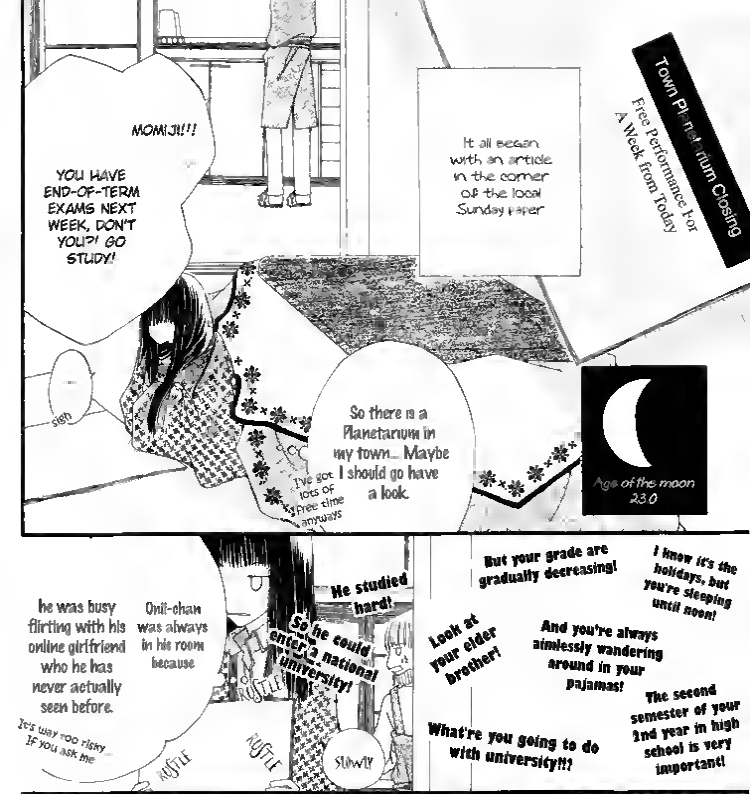

星に願いを。
Wish Upon the Stars


Town Planetarium Closing
Free Performance For A Week From Today
It all began with an article in the corner of the local Sunday paper
MOMIJI!!!
YOU HAVE END-OF-TERM EXAMS NEXT WEEK, DON'T YOU?! GO STUDY!
sigh
So there is a Planetarium in my town... Maybe I should go have a look.
I've got lots of free time anyways
Age of the moon 23.0

He studied hard!
So he could enter a national university!
he was busy flirting with his online girlfriend who he has never actually seen before.
It's way too risky IF you ask me
Onii-chan was always in his room because
RUSTLE
SLOWLY
But your grade are gradually decreasing!
I know it's the holidays, but you're sleeping until noon!
Look at your elder brother!
And you're always aimlessly wandering around in your pajamas!
What're you going to do with university?!?
The second semester of your 2nd year in high school is very important!

T/N: National university that is run by the government

Before the building closed down due to financial problems the Planetarium was always full of people
and I only went to kill some time

Hiiragi Kiwa
I know that name

He was my classmate for three years in middle school

He was the person who was always seen laughing in class

I heard a rumor that

he was sick right after he entered high school, and was held back a year

It's been two years since then...

I see... he's alright now.
AH
SO... ARE YOU WORKING PART TIME HERE?
YUP
MY FATHER IS THE DIRECTOR OF THIS PLACE SO WITH HIS CONNECTIONS,
I'M WORKING HERE JUST FOR THIS LAST WEEK
UHM?
Don't tell me... You have forgotten about me?
Looks like he's gotten thinner
WHAT?!!
SO WHAT WILL HAPPEN WHEN THIS PLACE CLOSES?!
Your father will be unemployed ?
Ah
...SORRY
I was interfering in your family affairs
MY FATHER DECIDED TO CLOSE THIS PLACE DOWN
WELL, I GUESS IT WILL BE 'GOODBYE' TO THIS TOWN
There were lots of management problems anyway
EH?
Ahh~ You haven't changed at all huh.. Konno
AFTER PASSING THE EMPLOYMENT TEST FOR ASTRONOMY

TAKE YOUR TIME LOOKING AROUND, 'KAY?
SHE'S KONNO MY CLASSMATE IN JUNIOR HIGH.
Hello!
good afternoon
OKAY.
She's really pretty.
Wow
YEAH.
good afternoon
OH?
IS SHE A FRIEND OF YOURS, KIWA?
...SO ARE YOU GOING TO LEAVE WITH YOUR FATHER TOO, KIWA-KUN?
I SEE... TAKE CARE, OKAY?
Age of the moon 24.0
HEY, KONNO?
...YEP
THE TOWN'S A LOT BIGGER THAN HERE.

HMM? KIWA-KUN!
So we meet again
I WAS JUST THINKING OF HOW WEIRDLY THIS ONE PERSON WAS WALKING
SO IT WAS YOU, KONNO
What were you doing on a late night
WEIRD
WELL, IT'S PROBABLY BECAUSE OF THIS
LOOK AT THIS
THE GRADES NEEDED TO PASS THE MOCK TEST AT CRAM SCHOOL
RUSTLE
ONCE AGAIN
THERE IS NOTHING THAT I CAN SAY
Chance of passing is pretty much close to none
I wonder how Mom would react to this
I THINK SO TOO
CLANK
WELL FOR HAVING A DAY LIKE THAT
TAP
here
CHILL OUT FOR A BIT
'KAY, MIGHT AS WELL.
Itadakimasu!
STRING PARK
CLANK
T/N: "Itadakimasu" is something you say before a meal.

I'M SEARCHING FOR MY OWN STAR
OH, IT'S FOR SPACE OBSERVATION
SO, WHAT ARE THOSE FOR?
BINOCULARS AND THE FULL DEFENSES
YOUR OWN STAR?
WHEN WE FIND A NEW COMET,
WE CAN NAME IT.
By reporting it to the International Association of Astronomy
EH?!!
SO THAT THING IS FOR LOOKING AT THE STARS?!!
YEP
BECAUSE I'M IN AN OBSERVATION GROUP
Can you really do it?

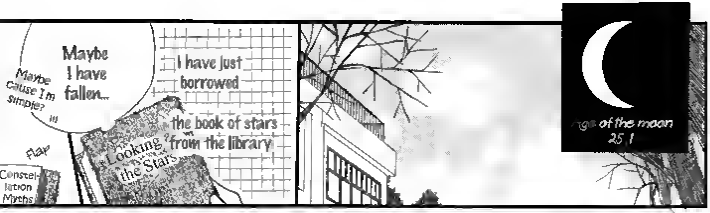
OUR EXPANSIVE UNIVERSE'S AGE IS ABOUT 200 MILLIONS YEARS OLD
THE STARS ALSO HAVE A LIFE AND DEATH
THE TWINKLE WE CAN SEE NOW DOESN'T LAST FOREVER.
BUT,

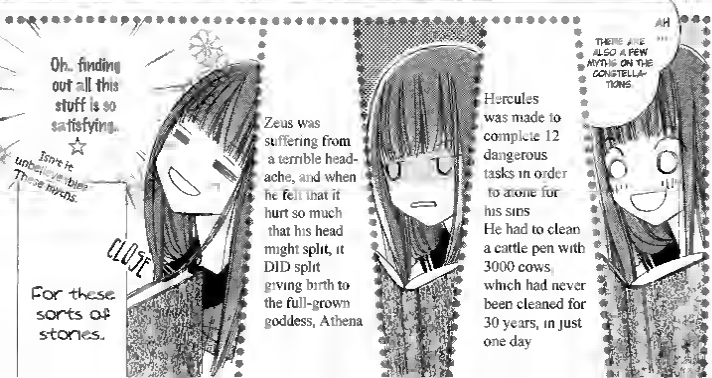
SOMEWHERE AT THE END OF THE UNIVERSE,
WHERE IT TAKES TENS OR EVEN HUNDREDS OF YEARS FOR THE LITTLE TWINKLE TO REACH,
WHO KNOWS? THERE COULD BE A NEW STAR JUST BEING BORN
I DON'T THINK IT'S SOMETHING IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME.
QUITE A NUMBER OF NEW STARS ARE FOUND JUST WITHIN A YEAR
I SEE.
Go ahead and fall in love with me
I CALL THAT "A GUY'S ROMANCE."
YOU KNOW OF THE ORION STARS", DON'T YOU?
TO THE UPPER LEFT OF THAT IS THE FIRST-MAGNITUDE STAR, BETELGEUSE AND
EVEN THOUGH YOU CAN'T SEE IT CLEARLY DUE TO THE MILKY WAY, THAT'S THE ALPHA STAR PROCYON FROM CANIS MINOR OVER THERE
I've forgotten all the constellations and stuff already
COME TO THINK OF IT, I HAVEN'T REALLY PROPERLY LOOKED UP AT THE HEAVENS FOR A WHILE NOW

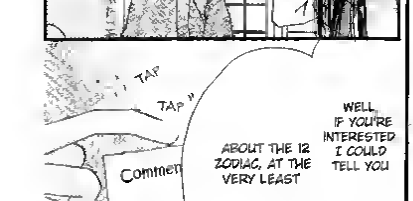
AND THAT TRIANGLE OVER THERE IS MADE FROM ONE OF THE STARS SIRIUS FROM THE CANIS MAJOR, AND IS CALLED
"THE BIG EQUILATERAL TRIANGLE OF WINTER."
Procyon
Betelgeuse
Sirius
LOOK THERE, THE STAR IS SHAKING, RIGHT?
THAT'S BECAUSE, DURING THE WINTER, THE AIR FLOW ISN'T STEADY.
AH!
THAT'S THE NORTH STAR, RIGHT?
NOPE
THIS IS THE SOUTHERN PART.
So we can't see the North Star.
SOUGH
POINTS
...IS THAT SO?
UHH!
YOU KNOW THE BIG DIPPER?
UH-HUH
THAT'S THE NORTH STAR
WHICH ONE?
LOCATE THE TWO STARS THAT FORM THE OUTER SIDE OF THE BIG DIPPER. DRAW A LINE 5 TIMES THE THE DISTANCE BETWEEN THOSE TWO STARS AND YOU WILL FIND ...
HERE
THEN ALPHA STAR OF THE SECOND CLASS MAGNITUDE AND IS PART OF THE URSA MINOR.*
*LITTLE DIPPER

AH, DO YOU STILL REMEMBER THE RUMOR BACK IN MIDDLE SCHOOL?
THE ONE THAT SAYS "IF YOU CAN SEE ANOTHER STAR BESIDE THE SECOND STAR IN THE HANDLE OF THE BIG DIPPER, YOU'LL DIE".
*T/N: The second star in the handle is called the Mizar
Alcor
Mizar
UH... I SEE...
Come to think of it...
Because it's usually hidden by Mizar's brightness
AROUND OUR PLACE HERE USUALLY WE COULD SEE THE ALCOR IF THE NIGHT SKY IS CLEAR
THOSE STARS ARE ACTUALLY THE TRUE VISUAL BINARIES. THE ALCOR WHICH IS A FIFTH CLASS STAR, STICKS CLOSELY TO THE MIZAR
That's horrible...!
So there's no such thing as a Star of Death?
Though I forgot about it right away
AND WAS REALLY WORRIED THAT I WOULD DIE!!
I ACTUALLY SAW THE ALCOR ONCE,
SERI-OUSLY?!
*T/N: true visual binaries are physically closely related to each other, compare with Optical binaries
...THE NORTH STAR, THE STAR THAT NEVER MOVES
Do you get it?
I think so, at least some of it
Konno?
FALLS
...WHY
IS IT SO DEEP BACK THERE...
The star's world
YOU MEAN THE RUMOR CAME FROM THE FIS* OF THE NORTH STAR ?
grinned
YEP, FROM THE FIS* OF THE NORTH STAR
hehehe
*T/N: In the manga The Fist of The North Star (Hokuto no Ken) if a person sees the star beside the Mizar in Big Dipper, then this person will die soon

smiles
WANT TO FALL IN THERE?


Maybe I have fallen...
Maybe Cause I'm simple?
I have just borrowed
the book of stars from the library
Looking at the Stars
Flat
Constellation Myths
Light of the moon
25.1


Oh.. finding out all this stuff is so satisfying.
Isn't it unbelievable! These myths.
CLOSE
For these sorts of stories.
Zeus was suffering from a terrible headache, and when he felt that it hurt so much that his head might split, it DID split giving birth to the full-grown goddess, Athena
Hercules was made to complete 12 dangerous tasks in order to atone for his sins
He had to clean a cattle pen with 3000 cows, which had never been cleaned for 30 years, in just one day
AH
THERE ARE ALSO A FEW MYTHS ON THE CONSTELLATIONS.

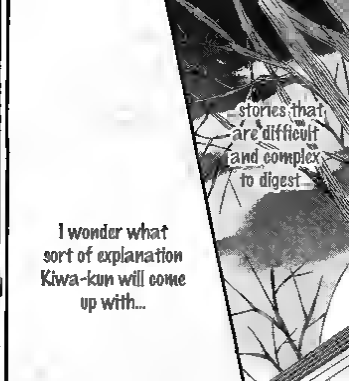

TAP
TAP
WELL, IF YOU'RE INTERESTED I COULD TELL YOU
ABOUT THE 12 ZODIAC, AT THE VERY LEAST
I'm a part-timer at the planetarium after all

He was also popular among the girls

Even in middle school, he was good at both academics and sports

and was always the center of attention in class...

and he was...



I wonder what sort of explanation Kiwa-kun will come up with...

always laughing...
That pretty lady...
YOUR SISTER?
...
YEP
KINDA
SHE'S MY OLDER BROTHER'S FIANCEE.
Somehow...
OH, IS IT FROM YOUR DAD?
NAH
THAT PERSON IS MY ASTRONOMY TEACHER.
These are all the stars' positions in the universe
SHE'S BEEN WORKING HERE ALL THIS TIME, DOING THE LECTURES AND THINGS.
HALF OF MY OF CONSTELLATION KNOWLEDGE IS JUST "SECOND-HAND" KNOWLEDGE
Even though it's kinda of embarrassing
There are still many things I don't know

YOU WANNA LAUGH?
HEY... KONNO.
SIGH
ANY-WAYS
HOW COULD YOU TELL?
UH I WONDER HOW
WHY? THERE'S NO REASON TO
Well.
That's because your reaction was so...
...he still couldn't reach her.
IT'S A LOAD OFF MY MIND, REALLY.
IT'S ACTUALLY HARDER THAN I THOUGHT...
TO CONTINUE LIVING IN THIS WAY...
Kiwa-kun's gaze at the time was distant
and completely one-sided as he stared off into the distance.
Even though she was so close...
Surely...
he's really easy to understand.
STRAIGHT HIT TO THE HEART
TURN
HUH!?
IT MUST BE PAINFUL HUH? BEING IN LOVE WITH YOUR SISTER-IN-LAW, RIGHT...
WELL THEN, WILL THAT PERSON GO TOGETHER WITH YOU TOO?
NO, SHE WON'T GO
SINCE THIS IS WHERE THEY FIRST STARTED THEIR LIVES TOGETHER.
GRABS
AH
SORRY
I said something unnecessary again

A secret, huh?
pfft
Who do you think I would tell this to..?
ALRIGHT
I won't tell
I'LL SHOW YOU A SPECIAL PLACE, THAT NO ONE ELSE KNOWS OF, TO LOOK FOR STARS
SO KEEP IT A SECRET, 'KAY?
You can't?
...HUH?
MAKE SURE YOU'RE DRESSED WARMLY OKAY?
...WHAT ARE YOU LAUGHING ABOUT?
NOTHIN
FOR TOMORROW

Age of the moon
26.3

rattle
rattle
rattle
WHO IS OUTSIDE?
It's cold!
So cold—
It's a nice day today though
That on a fine day, with clouds no where in sight,
we'd be able to see the stars clearly.
Kiwa-kun said so.

It's pretty hard to believe...
We weren't close at all when we were in Middle School.
And now, we're together every day like this.
Even after graduation, we didn't even make plans to meet up or anything.
THREE MORE DAYS LIKE THIS, HUH...

HEY! KONNO! ☆
YOUR GLOVE!!
Come on, just one more.
PANT
...
PANT
...
HERE, GIVE ME YOUR HAND. ☆ You can do it!
...
GOAL!! ☆
You really don't have any stamina, Konno!
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
You're the one who has too much stamina, Kuu-kun!
It only takes 30 minutes to walk here from home!
IT'S A PERFECT OBSERVATION SPOT, DON'T YOU THINK?
AND THERE ARE NO BUILDINGS OR THINGS THAT CAN OBSTRUCT OUR VIEW.
THERE ISN'T A LOT OF ARTIFICIAL LIGHT HERE,
A PRESENT FOR YOU! ★
QUITE FAR, THEN?
A LITTLE ...?
PANT
PANT
THOUGH IT'S A LITTLE FAR AWAY...

LOOK UP THERE, KONNO
BECAUSE WE HAVE THE MANY CONDITIONS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO HIGHER VISIBILITY OF STARS TONIGHT.
There's very little moonlight too and the degree of visibility is high.
WE CAN EVEN SEE THE DIMMER STARS.
WE'RE REALLY LUCKY
I—I GUESS WE ARE...

I'M GETTING GOOSEBUMPS~
IF YOU LIE DOWN, IT SEEMS LIKE THE STARS ARE RAINING DOWN FROM THE CLEAR, MOONLESS SKY.
...THE GEMINI METEORIC STORM...?
Sorry these words are kinda hard to take in
Yup
BIT'S OF PARTICLES FROM THE SUN, PLANETS, AND METEORS ARE PULLED TOWARDS EARTH DUE TO IT'S GRAVITY, AT HUNDREDS OF KILOMETERS PER SECOND AND PIERCE THE OUTERMOST LAYER OF THE EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE
THE FRICTION THAT IS CAUSED, CAUSES THE PARTICLES TO EVAPORATE AND THEN LIGHT IS RELEASED INTO THE AIR
AH... BUT MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE OF YOU THAT WE HAVE SUCH GOOD LUCK
WHY?
BECAUSE RIGHT NOW, THE GEMINI METEORIC STORM IS BEGINNING
TWO DAYS AFTER TOMORROW, WHEN THE STORM IS AT ITS MAXIMUM, IT'LL ALSO BE A NEW MOON SO IT'LL BE EVEN CLEARER
Even though you can't see too much right now

I KIND OF GET IT, KIND OF NOT GET IT...
...DO YOU GET IT?
ANYWAYS, THIS IS THE REAL THING
THAT'S THE PHENOMENON WE KNOW AS SHOOTING STARS
COUGH! COUGH!
YOU KNOW THEY SAY "IF YOU CAN REPEAT YOUR WISH THREE TIMES BEFORE A SHOOTING STAR DISAPPEARS, YOUR WISH WILL COME TRUE" ?
THE METEOR SHOWER SHOULD BE THE PERFECT CHANCE TO MAKE THE WISH
While there's only one shooting star it's too difficult.
...KONNO'S TRAIN OF THOUGHT IS WEIRD!!
PFFT
NO WAY! IT'S PERFECTLY NORMAL TO THINK LIKE THAT, ISN'T IT?!
SO THEN, WHEN THE EARTH APPROACHES THE PLACE WHERE THESE PARTICLES ARE GATHERED,
THEY GET PULLED BY THE EARTH'S GRAVITY, ONE AFTER THE OTHER.
AND THUS, YOU GET A METEOR SHOWER.
THEY TAKE THE NAME OF THE CONSTELLATION THAT IS
AND HENCE, IT'S CALLED THE GEMINI METEORIC STORM
Constellation of Gemini
RADIANT POINT OF THE STORM
Earth
COUGH! COUGH!
...

WELL THEN IF YOU COULD HAVE ONE WISH
WHAT WOULD IT BE?
COUGH
COUGH
UMM...
UHMM..... I'VE NEVER THOUGHT ABOUT THAT....
I've already gotten used to my mom's nagging
and I'm okay with not getting into University
And school life is pretty fun, so
COUGH
COUGH
ME?
WHAT'S YOUR WISH?
ANYWAYS, WHAT ABOUT KIWA-KUN?
IT'S NOT LIKE I DON'T HAVE ANY PROBLEMS THAT MAKE MY HEART HURT JUST THINKING ABOUT THEM
I even cried alone at nights
HAVING FUN EVERY DAY
SEEMS LIKE KONNO HAS IT ALL, HUH

UHM.....

I GUESS I DON'T HAVE ONE EITHER
SEEMS LIKE IT
GUESS WE'VE BOTH GOT HAPPY LIVES, HUH?
Nah. I'll rely on myself for that
Maybe you can wish that you'll find a new star?
AH!!!
'KAY I KNOW! I'LL WISH IT SO THAT I CAN LIVE A PERFECT LIFE.
WHAT AN AMBITIONLESS WISH...

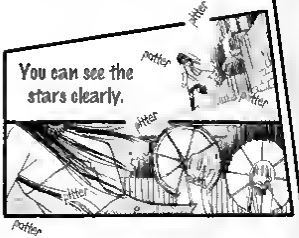
and because he just laughed
like the way he always did in middle school..
I GUESS I CAN MAKE THAT MY WISH, TOO
Because Kiwa-kun didn't look like he really meant the wish,
...EH?!

...I thought his illness had already been cured
splint
splint
HE DEVELOPED A HIGH FEVER LAST NIGHT,
SO TODAY HE'S STAYING IN THE HOSPITAL FOR OBSERVATION
BUT, YESTERDAY WHEN WE WENT HIKING, HE WAS HEALTHIER THAN ME
He didn't look sick at all!
YEAH
FOR KIWA'S ILLNESS, EXERCISE ISN'T A PROBLEM TO AN EXTENT
BUT THE HOSPITAL OFTEN TELLS HIM NOT TO OVERDO IT
SO IT DEPENDS ON THE PERSON, REALLY
KIWA LIVES JUST ONCE, YOU KNOW?
I DON'T WANT HIM TO REGRET ANYTHING
Here, have some coffee.
'The town's a lot bigger than here.'
SO THE REASON KIWA-KUN IS LEAVING THIS TOWN IS
SO HE CAN GO TO A BIGGER HOSPITAL...?
THAT'S RIGHT.

YOU KNOW WHEN I SEE YOU WITH KIWA,
HE LOOKS LIKE HE'S HAVING SO MUCH FUN AND IS ALWAYS LAUGHING
THAT MAKES ME REALLY HAPPY, KNOWING THAT
I KNOW I'M ONLY THINKING ABOUT KIWA, BUT...
EVEN IF IN THE FUTURE
YOUR MEMORIES WITH KIWA END UP MAKING YOU SAD,
BUT THE MAIN REASON
IS SO THAT HE CAN LIVE MORE HEALTHILY
I STILL THINK IT WAS THE
BEST THING FOR KIWA.
WHATEVER I DO,
MIGHT NOT BE EXTRAORDINARY,
THANKS FOR THE DRINK
I'M BEING SELFISH, AREN'T I?
EH?!
CHUK
CHUK
CHUK
YOU'LL GET BURNED..!

Here, there's only one big hospital,

but the air is clear



"It's a much bigger town than here."

I've lived here for 17 years

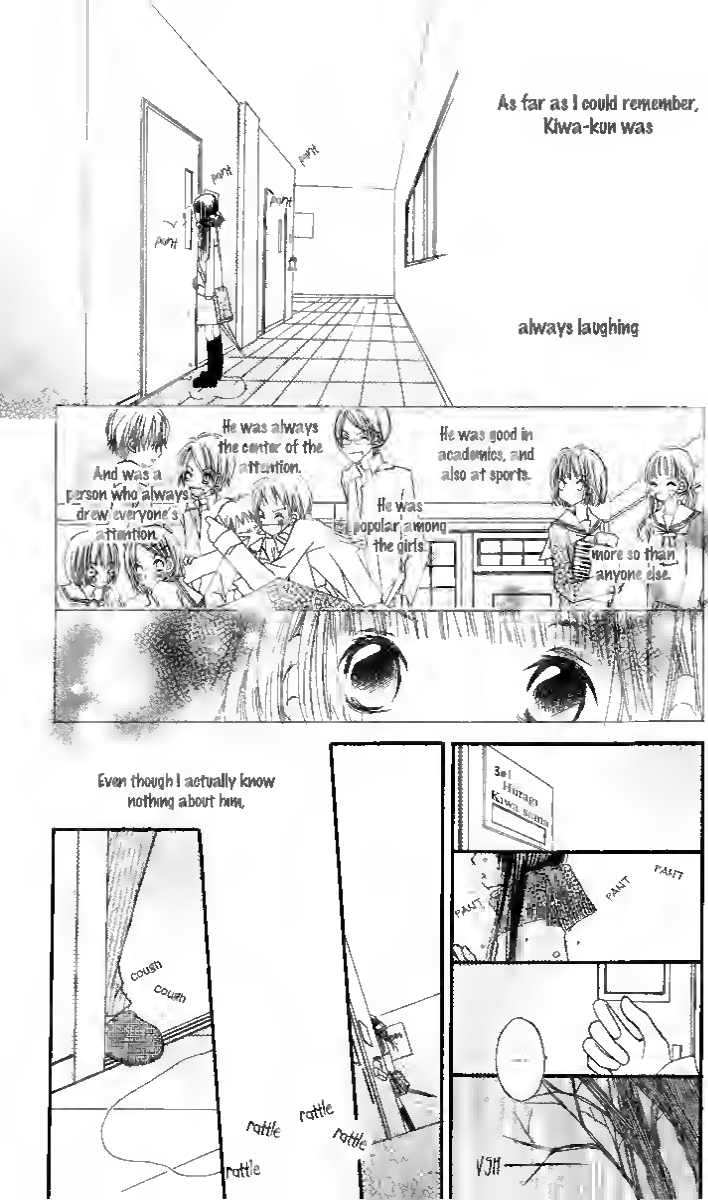
and although it's a small town,

it's a town more precious than anywhere else.

RAIN'S

FOR ME, IT'S NOT THAT I'M IN A POSITION WHERE I WON'T GET HURT. GETTING HURT ISN'T ALL THAT BIG OF A DEAL.

BUT I HAVE A STRONG WILL AND I HAVE MORE DETERMINATION THAN YOU THINK


As far as I could remember, Kiwa-kun was
always laughing
He was always the center of the attention.
He was good in academics, and also at sports.
And was a person who always drew everyone's attention.
He was popular among the girls.
more so than anyone else.
Even though I actually know nothing about him.
3-1 Hiiragi Kiwa sama
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
cough cough
rattle
rattle
rattle
rattle
VJJJ

Light of the moon 236
liked him somewhere deep inside.
yet, I've always
cough cough
Hm? A puddle of water?
THERE'S A FEW CLOUDS, HUH?
THE RADIANT POINT OF THE METEORIC STORM
IS HIDDEN
turn
YEAH.
I REALLY WANTED TO SAY GOOD-BYE PROPERLY,
SO USING A BIT OF SKILL, I MANAGED TO GET SOMEONE TO DRIVE ME HERE
AHAHA!

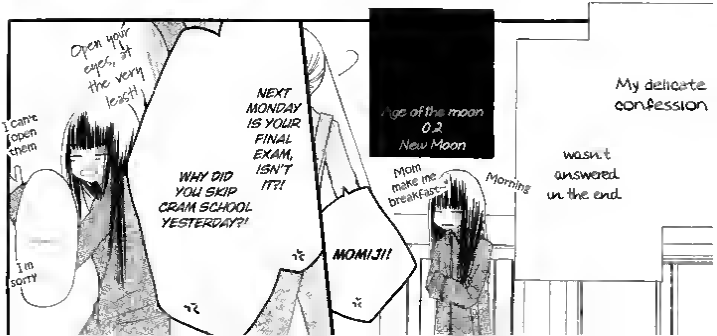
EHP
HEY, KONNO... YESTERDAY...
HERE
It's cocoa
At the hospital
Ah-Choo!
Brr
AH FORGET IT, IT'S NOTHING
AH IT'S WARM
?
Thank you!
DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE END OF A STAR?
A STAR GLOWS REALLY BRIGHTLY BECAUSE OF THE ATOM'S NUCLEUS'S REACTION FROM THE CHANGING OF HYDROGEN INTO HELIUM AND IT RELEASES AN ENORMOUS AMOUNT OF HEAT ENERGY IN THE FORM OF LIGHT
BUT ALL STARS WILL GRADUALLY LOSE THEIR FUEL IN TIME,
UNTIL THE ATOM CAN NO LONGER FORM THE REACTION AND RELEASE THAT LIGHT...
THAT IS THE END OF A STAR'S LIFE

WELL, EVEN THOUGH ITS LIFE IS GOING TO END,
BECAUSE STARS HAVE THOUSANDS OF YEARS, AND EVEN HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS OF YEARS OF NATURAL LIFE,
IT'S HARD TO GET A GRASP OF SUCH A TIME SPAN THAT I FIND IT HARD TO UNDERSTAND.
100'S OF MILLIONS OF YEARS
COMPARED TO 17 YEARS OF HUMAN LIFE, IT SEEMS SO SURREAL.
SO RATHER THAN WORRYING ABOUT ALL THESE LITTLE THINGS
I'D PREFER SEARCHING FOR THINGS I LIKE TO DO, AND BE ABLE TO LAUGH
INDEED..!!
LET'S LIVE OUR SHORT LIVES TO THE FULLEST!
OH-?
ANYWAYS, YOU'LL CATCH A COLD LIKE THIS!
Well, me saying it is a bit hypocritical though...
AHH— JUST NOW,
THAT MEANINGLESS ENTHUSIASM JUST POPPED OUT!
SHIVER
BURST OUT LAUGHING
HAHA
Kanno, you're really something.

You're being unfair, Kiwa-kun
That's definitely,
I've decided!
breaking the rules
You're making me cry
...EH?!!
That would look weird if Kiwa-kun's riding behind me!
SO! DID YOU JUST SAY THAT YOU WANT TO MAKE USE OF YOUR PENT UP ENERGY
AND MAKE ME RIDE HOME ON THE BACK OF YOUR BIKE?
Um...
IS YOUR BODY OKAY?
...IT'S A BIT LATE TO ASK, BUT I FEEL A BIT GUILTY...
LOOK WEIRD...?
WHAT ARE YOU THINKING OF...?
Just leave me alone!
Just sit!
Fine! I'll take you home on my bike!
?!
KIWA-KUN WON'T UNDERSTAND!
BUT A GIRL'S HEART WOULD BE FLUTTERING...!

EVERY TIME I LOOK UP TOWARDS THE NORTH SKY,
EVERY TIME I SEARCH FOR THE NORTH STAR...
WHETHER IT'S IN THE WINTER,
IN THE SPRING,
OR DURING SUMMER AND OR AUTUMN.
ON A CLEAR NIGHT,
OR ON A CLOUDY NIGHT,
OR EVEN ON A NIGHT WHERE I CAN'T SEE ANY STARS.
OR THE WINTER AFTER THAT
HUH?
I'M GOING TO NAME THE NORTH STAR "KIWA-KUN."
I...
"You know the Big Dipper."
"Locate the two stars that form the outer side of the Big Dipper, draw a line 5 times the the distance between those two stars, and you will find..."
"...the North Star. The star that never moves."
I'll get down! Please let me down!
Kyaah! Sorry!
?!!
I'M CONCENTRATING INTENSELY FOR THE SAKE OF THIS GIRL'S FLUTTERING HEART'S SWAYING.
I WAS JUST KIDDING!
I CAN HANDLE THIS.
KIWA-KUN
HM?
WHICH DIRECTION IS THE NEW TOWN IN?
IT'S IN THE NORTH

squeeze
IS IT OKAY IF I REMEMBER KIWA-KUN LIKE THAT?


Age of the moon 0.2 New Moon
My delicate confession wasn't answered in the end.
Morning
Mom make me breakfast
MOMIJI!
NEXT MONDAY IS YOUR FINAL EXAM, ISN'T IT?!
WHY DID YOU SKIP CRAM SCHOOL YESTERDAY?!
I'm sorry
I can't open them
Open your eyes, at the very least!

Konno Momiji
...
MOM, WHAT IS THIS?
AH, THAT WAS IN THE MAIL BOX THIS MORNING.
I think it was directly put in there
Hiiragi Kiwa
Even though it's still holidays, why are you always wandering around in your pajamas the whole day, and not sleeping till late at night?!
That's why you're getting on it! Even though this is such an important phase during of your second year of high school career!
Konno Momiji
I
Because you taught me all those things, Kiwa-kun..
Konno Momiji-sama
Sigh
We'd be able to see the stars clearly.
On a fine day, with clouds no where in sight,

for me,

having Konno name a star after

my name made me happy.

I really wanted to say thank you, but when-

ever I wanted to say something, it felt like

I'd end up crying instead.

That was the last time I saw you.

and so I didn't want to look uncool

in front of you.

Thank you for supporting the planetarium throughout these years.

-MANAGEMENT-

Me too.

At the time,
I really had a lot
of things I wanted
to ask you ..

...lately, I keep looking
up at the sky,

thinking nonstop
about Kiwa-kun.

Though I told Konno about my dream

like that, but the truth was, I've been

searching for a new star with very

little motivation the whole time.

THUD
ouch!
"Konno really has good luck!"
"Because right now, the Gemini meteoric storm is beginning."
"When the storm is at its maximum,"
it'll also be a new moon."
Even though Konno is by herself, so that you'll still know the positions of all the stars, I've included a chart of all the constellations.
RUSTLE
Someday
THUNK
UUWAAH..!
LOST BALANCE

"If you lie down,"
"you can see the stars raining down on you."
"under this clear, moonless sky"
May there be...

Then please...
I could have just one wish
I'll wish over and over again.
to these countless numbers of shooting stars...
Somehow... let this one wish reach you.
"If Konno could have one wish, what would it be?"
If...
"May there be another day
that I could look up at the starry sky
with Konno again."
If wishes
could ever come true,
Then that would be my wish

Please...
may Kiwa-kun's
wish come true.

Mizutama Fabric

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Story 4

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